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"It's a nightmare. It's not ending."

Murtaza Haider, associate professor at Ryerson University

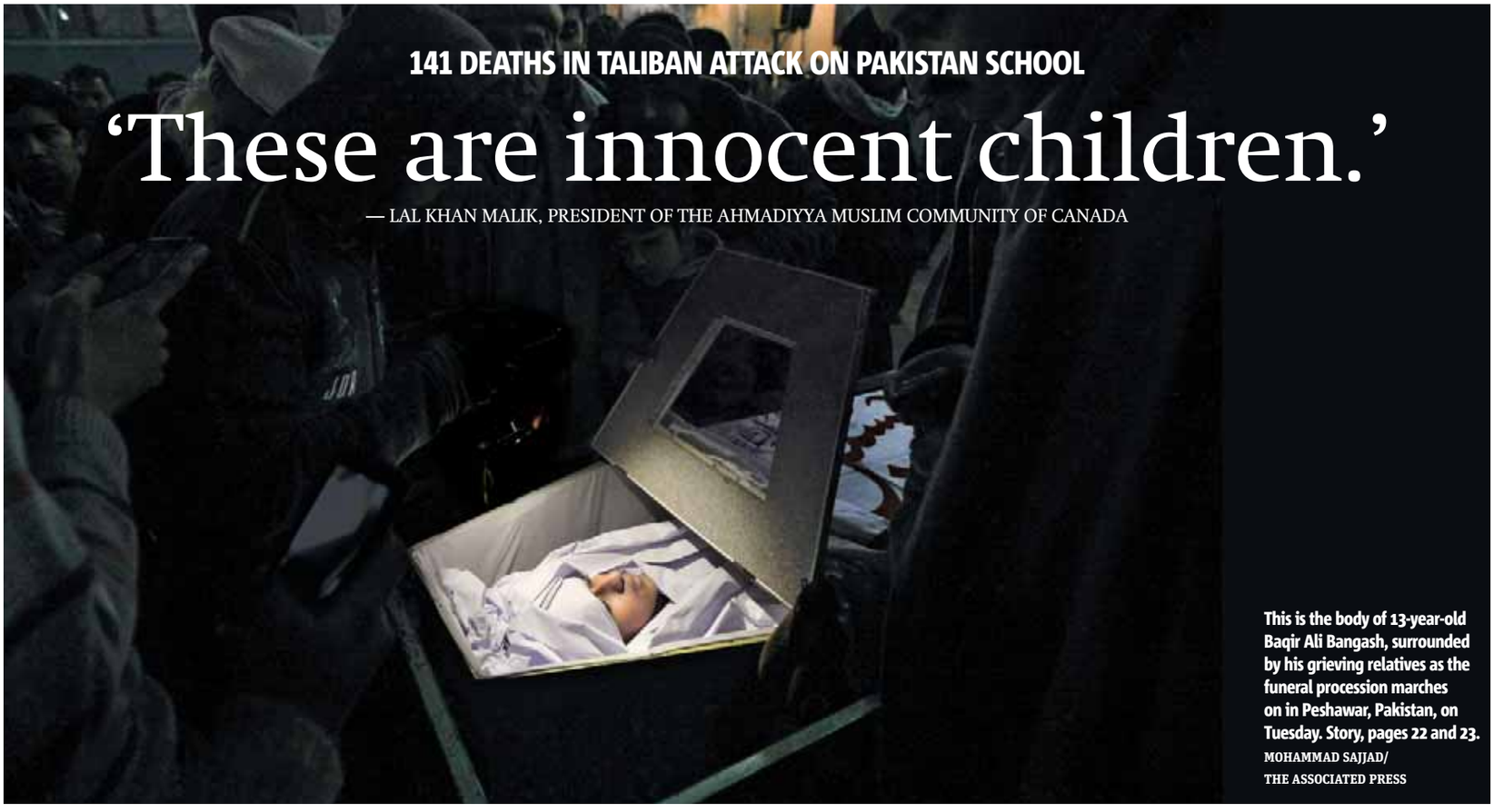
"This is a defining moment. All political parties have to put their differences aside."

Senator and Torontonian Salma Ataullahjan

141 DEATHS IN TALIBAN ATTACK ON PAKISTAN SCHOOL

'These are innocent children.'

— LAL KHAN MALIK, PRESIDENT OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY OF CANADA



This is the body of 13-year-old Baqir Ali Bangash, surrounded by his grieving relatives as the funeral procession marches on in Peshawar, Pakistan, on Tuesday. Story, pages 22 and 23.

MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Task force will review sexual abuse by health professionals

Third time since 1991. College of Physicians and Surgeons currently isn't required to report potential acts of sexual abuse to the police

The province has launched a task force "to review and modernize" laws that deal with sexual abuse of patients by health professionals, following a Torstar News Service investigation into doctors who continue to practise despite being found guilty of such misconduct.

Health Minister Dr. Eric Hoskins said Torstar has done "a pretty remarkable job at highlighting just how important this issue is, but also that it is certainly appropriate that we revisit legislation that, quite frankly, hadn't been reviewed in a couple of decades."

He first announced a review of the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) in October.

Since September, Torstar has revealed that the College of Physicians and Surgeons isn't required to report potential criminal acts of sexual abuse to the police; that doctors found criminally responsible for assaulting patients and patient's mothers have been able to continue to practise; and that 20 doctors currently have gender-based restrictions on their licence, in some cases after a finding of professional misconduct resulting from sexually abusing a patient.

This would be the third provincial task force to examine sexual abuse by health professionals since 1991, which raises questions about how effective it will be to conduct another one.

Political will and a razor-sharp mandate will make the difference, says Marilou McPhedran, who chaired the previous two task forces and will co-chair this next one.

McPhedran has been a vocal critic of how the College of Physicians and Surgeons has used the discretion the government has granted it to deal with sexual abuse of patients by doctors.

During the first two task forces, she said, doubts were expressed about how much evidence there was on sexual abuse of patients and whether it was pervasive.

"I don't think anyone is going to try that this time," McPhedran, who characterizes the issue as "entrenched systemic exploitation."

Other members of the task force include former Ontario chief justice Roy McMurtry, who will be a co-chairman, and educator and nurse Sheila Macdonald. Along with McPhedran, they will provide a report and recommendations to the government this spring. The government will then decide which of the recommendations, if any, to enact.

McPhedran is regarded as the architect of Ontario's "zero tolerance" stance on sexual abuse, which was included in the 1994 legislation.

Despite the official "zero tolerance" position, a Torstar investigation found several doctors have continued to practise after being found guilty of professional misconduct by the regulator as a result of sexually abusing patients outside the specific acts outlined by the legislation.

The law prescribes mandatory revocation of a licence when a health professional is found guilty of certain sexual acts with a patient. Those acts include sexual intercourse, oral-to-genital contact, genital-to-genital contact, genital-to-anal contact and masturbation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

What will review cover?

The task force will look at:

- The definition of sexual abuse, including which sexual acts should trigger automatic revocation of a health professional's licence.
- How a college can discipline a member found guilty of sexually abusing a patient, including whether gender-based restrictions are an appropriate disciplinary action.
- Whether reporting sexual abuse of patients by health professionals to police should be mandatory for colleges.
- Whether there is room for further public participation in college disciplinary processes.
- How patients who have been sexually abused by health professionals can be supported to come forward.

Marilou McPhedran chaired the previous two task forces and will co-chair the next one. She has been a vocal critic of how the College of Physicians and Surgeons has used the discretion the government has granted it to deal with sexual abuse of patients by doctors. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Toronto under the cloak of heavy fog

Fog hangs heavy Tuesday morning over Toronto's financial district as the morning commute begins. The thick fog reduced visibility for drivers and commuters across the GTA, as a heavy air mass lingered over most of southern Ontario. COURTESY OF JON SIMO

CBC's Vinyl Cafe tones down the turkey abuse

'Dave Cooks the Turkey'. CBC storyteller Stuart McLean edits out lines deemed demeaning to the birds in his Christmas classic

Turkey trouble has been cooking at the CBC.

In the wake of an online campaign waged by animal activists, the CBC's Vinyl Cafe radio program has decided to edit out portions of Stuart McLean's beloved holiday story, Dave Cooks the Turkey. The campaigners alleged some listeners deemed parts of the fictional tale degrading to animals.

"We wanted to encourage them to do better than that," said Yan Roberts, who spearheaded the campaign. "If our media culture is creating a situation that accepts abuse and abusive deaths towards farmed animals, it lends itself to a culture where that becomes normalized."

Stuart McLean's Revenge of the Vinyl Cafe. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In the story, Dave, the bumbling protagonist who stars in McLean's most famous Vinyl Cafe yarns, promises wife Morley that he will take care of their Christmas turkey. Come Christmastime, however, Dave realizes that he's forgotten to buy a bird. He rushes to a grocery store in the middle of the night to find that they only have one unappetizing, frozen, Grade B turkey left. Dave takes it home and defrosts it with an electric blanket and hairdryer.

Last week, Roberts created a website encouraging people to write to the show to complain about the offending portions of the story. By the end of the week, Vinyl Cafe had received hundreds of letters from concerned listeners.

The Vinyl Cafe show responded with a posting on its Facebook page on Dec. 12.

"Clearly we don't want any part in the abuse of animals, nor in promoting the abuse of animals," the post read.

"The story will be on the show next weekend. But we have made a few small changes. We have edited out a couple of lines that, after reading some of the thoughtful letters that have come in over the past week, we no longer feel comfortable airing on our show."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Subway debit machines will speed up entry times: Colle

Byford. Pushing to fast-track Presto card

LUKE SIMCOE
luke.simcoe@metronews.ca

Quoted

"Ultimately, what we really want to be doing is get rid of tokens, get rid of transfers, get rid of tickets and move to Presto as soon as we can."

TTC CEO Andy Byford

The new chairman of the TTC believes installing debit machines at every subway station will speed up lines for token-takers.

"It's not as if the cash-only experience is that speedy right now," said Coun. Josh Colle.

"I think this could speed things up because you have that credit or debit card transaction as opposed to that person counting out their satchel of loonies and toonies."

Colle, along with Mayor John Tory and TTC CEO Andy Byford, was at Victoria Park Station Tuesday to announce the TTC was expanding its debit and credit payment system for fares.

Starting Jan. 1, 2015, passengers will be able to use debit or credit cards to purchase Metropasses or a minimum of 10 tokens at all 69 TTC subway stations.

"It's about recognizing that this is something our customers want," Colle said.

Colle told Metro he would like to see the new debit machines include the "tap" function for contactless payment.

"That would definitely speed things up," he said.

By next summer, riders will also be able to use pay-and-wave technology — which is already widely available in coffee shops — for single fares at collectors' booths, Byford promised.

It's a long-overdue development, said Tory. "In a global city like Toronto, the idea that most transactions would have to take place by cash is something that is almost prehistoric," he said.

"This city is two generations behind other cities and even the private sector in terms of using technology to make people's lives easier and more convenient," Tory added.

Mayor John Tory, TTC Chairman Josh Colle, right, with TTC CEO Andy Byford. Tory said Tuesday Toronto is "two generations behind other cities" in terms of using technology to make people's lives easier. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Byford also said he wants to move up the full launch of the electronic Presto card by a year.

"Ultimately, what we really want to be doing is get rid of tokens, get rid of transfers, get rid of tickets and move to Presto as soon as we can," he said. **WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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A plowed bicycle lane along Sherbourne Street in Toronto. COURTESY JARED KOLB/CYCLE TORONTO

City to spend $650K on plowing bike lanes

Safety first. The city has drafted a plan to plow snowy bike lanes next winter

LUKE SIMCOE
luke.simcoe@metronews.ca

Year-round cyclists will have an easier commute next winter, as the city has drafted a plan to plow its bike lanes.

The move comes as the city is renegotiating its snow clearance contract. Until now, there was no official level of service dedicated to bike lanes, meaning they were plowed in accordance with the roadway they shared.

"Our snow-clearing technology doesn't remove the snow, it just moves it to the side and too often that means pushing it into the bike lanes," said Coun. Mike Layton.

As a remedy, the city has identified priority bike routes and starting next year, those lanes will be plowed within 24 hours of a snowstorm.

Quoted

"I biked into work this morning. It was a nice ride." Coun. Mike Layton

"It's our goal to reach bare pavement," said Hector Moreno, a transportation services manager with the city. "If we can properly maintain the bike network, more people will use it."

Although subject to budgetary approval, Moreno estimates the policy will cost roughly $650,000, a small chunk of the city's $85-million annual snow-clearing budget.

However, that only includes routine plowing and salting. Full snow removal could cost as much as $3 million a year.

"Take Sherbourne Street, for example," Moreno said. "We have a dedicated bike lane there, but the snow has to go somewhere. The snow gets pushed on to the adjacent curb or boulevard and that has to be removed."

A 2009 study by the transportation department found 10 per cent of Toronto cyclists pedal through the winter. However, 29 per cent of respondents said they would bike year-round if lanes were properly maintained.

"I biked into work this morning. It was a nice ride," Layton said Tuesday. "We're trying to encourage people to get out of their cars, and for those of us who bike as their daily commute, we need to make sure it's safe out there."

Priority routes

Prioritized routes identified for plowing include those that allow cyclists to travel against traffic on one-way streets, such as the ones on Shaw Street, along with lanes along St. George, Beverley, Wellesley, Harbord, College, Gerrard, River, Shuter, Lower Simcoe, Lower Yonge, Strachan and the Bloor Viaduct.

Project Lakeland

Auto theft ring dismantled: Cops

Seven people are facing a total of 46 charges after police say they dismantled an auto theft ring in the Greater Toronto Area and recovered vehicles worth more than $1 million.

Durham regional police say the investigation began in October 2013 after an increase in automobile thefts in the area.

They say detectives found a connection between two stolen vehicles from the area and a person of interest in a York Regional Police auto theft investigation.

A joint operation dubbed Project Lakeland was started in July.

It's alleged the ring included thieves who stole the cars; a dealer who fraudulently obtained Ministry of Transportation documents; a person who changed Vehicle Identification Numbers; and, an exporter who shipped the stolen vehicles from Canada to be sold in Africa.

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Ontario man charged in $70M Ponzi scheme

An Ontario man charged by American authorities four years ago in an alleged $70-million US Ponzi scheme has been arrested after arriving at Pearson International airport.

Ontario Provincial Police say Nicholas Smirnow, of Lake of Bays, and his wife Dianna were arrested Friday night on outstanding warrants after arriving from the Philippines.

Police have charged Nicholas Smirnow with two counts of fraud over $5,000 and one of possession of property obtained by crime in what a U.S. district attorney alleges was a scheme defrauding more than 40,000 people in upwars of 120 different countries.

The Southern District of Illinois attorney charged Smirnow in absentia back in 2010 with 10 counts including mail fraud, wire fraud, securities fraud and money laundering.

"We absolutely are aware of the circumstances," Assistant United States Attorney Bruce Reppert told The Canadian Press in an interview Tuesday.

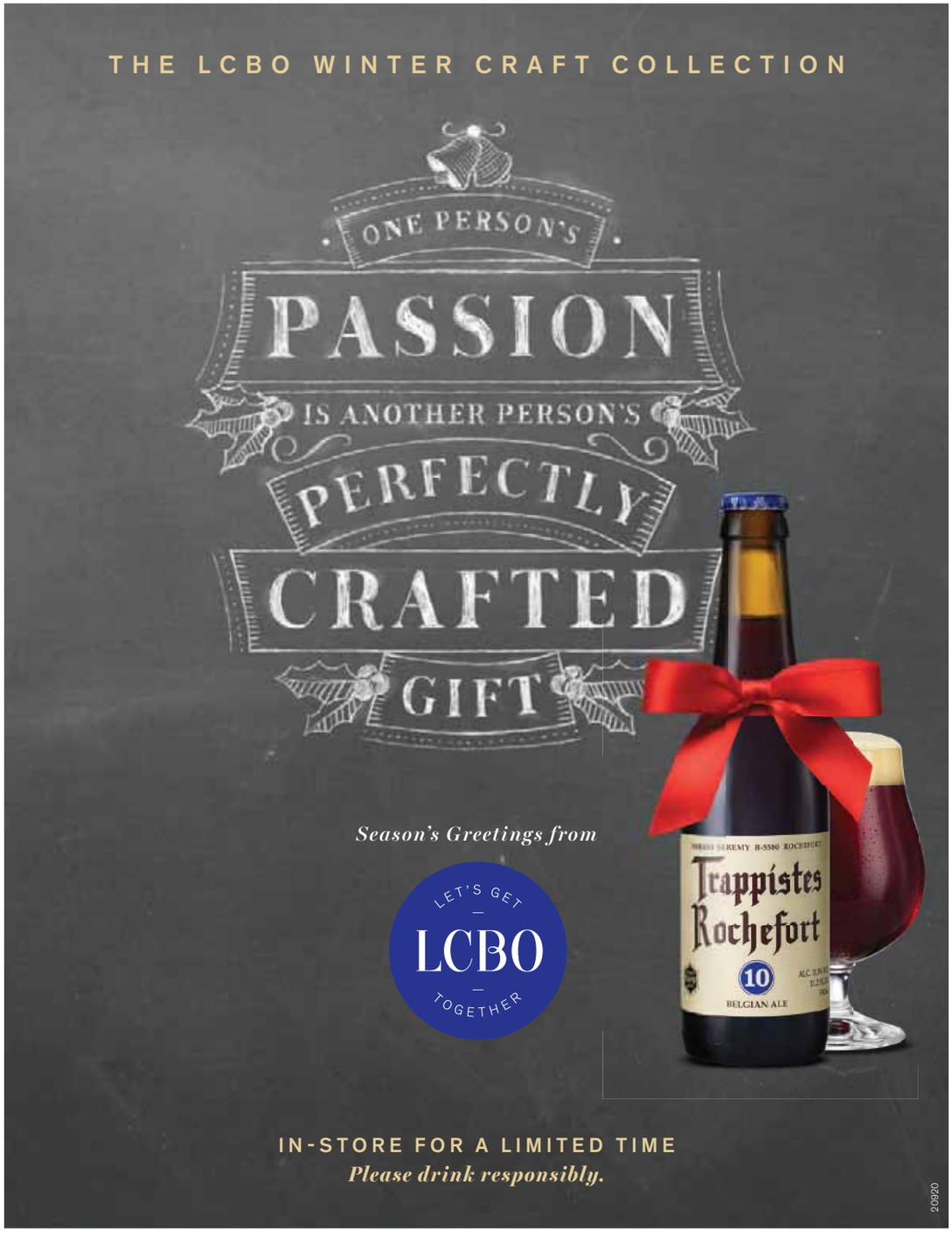
There was an attempt in 2010 to have Smirnow extradited from the Philippines but "We never got a hold of him," Reppert said.

Provincial police also allege Dianna Smirnow, 44, defrauded the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services of a "substantial amount" of money in 2008 but left the country before she could be arrested.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pathway to Prosperity

It's alleged Nicholas Smirnow ran a Ponzi scheme between 2007 and 2009 from Canada and the Philippines using a website called Pathway to Prosperity that offered investors high rates of annual return — up to 17,000 per cent in one example.



Liban Siyad was identified by the court as a middleman brokering deals for both firearms and cocaine. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Linked to Lisi, man pleads guilty to drug, gun charges

Project Traveller.
Liban Siyad admits to cocaine trafficking, gang membership and gun-related charge

One of the two alleged gang members Rob Ford friend Sandro Lisi is accused of extorting has pleaded guilty to three of several criminal charges he was facing.

Liban Siyad pleaded guilty in Superior Court on Dec. 12 to participating in a criminal organization (the Dixon City Bloods) for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, trafficking cocaine and conspiracy to traffic guns.

"Siyad was identified as a middleman brokering deals for both firearms and cocaine," according to the agreed statement of facts read to the court. Under questioning from Superior Court Justice John McMahon, Siyad agreed that he had been dealing drugs for the Dixon City Bloods and brokered a deal to sell a handgun.

He was sentenced to two years and nine months, in addition to the time he has already served, according to court documents.

Siyad, 23, has been in jail since his arrest on June 14, 2013, after the Project Traveller gang-and-gun raids that netted about 50 arrests. The raids targeted the Dixon City Bloods, a gang police say were running guns and drugs and operating largely out of a block of six highrise towers in the northwest end of the city that became ground zero for the Ford crack cocaine scandal.

Summaries of wiretaps released through police documents later showed several alleged gang members talking about their dealings with Toronto's former mayor, as well the now infamous crack video.

Siyad's lawyer, Cydney Israel, did not return requests for comment Tuesday.

Siyad and another man arrested during the Traveller raids, Mohamed Siad, are the two men Lisi is alleged by police to have extorted in his attempts to retrieve the video that showed Ford smoking crack cocaine.

Mohamed Siad, 28, is the man who shot the crack video and tried to peddle it to the Toronto Star and American website Gawker. He is currently facing gun and drug charges and his case is now in the preliminary hearing phase, where a judge will decide if there's enough evidence to proceed to a trial.

Lisi's lawyer says his client will "vigorously defend" the extortion charges against him.

As part of his Dec. 12 guilty plea, Siyad was also banned from owning weapons for life.

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Rental renaissance in GTA, says CMHC

Rental market survey. More and more Torontonians are looking to live closer to work, forgo home ownership

For the first time, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has put a number on the percentage of condos across the country owned by foreign investors and says it's highest in Toronto — at a mere 2.4 per cent.

Vancouver is close behind, with 2.3 per cent of its condominiums owned by people who reside outside of Canada, according to its annual rental-market survey released Tuesday.

The federal housing corporation asked condo corporations and property-management companies to identify which of their 92,257 rental condos have owners with mailing addresses outside of Canada.

That number proved to be especially high in condo buildings close to post-secondary institutions such as the University of Toronto and Ryerson University where many overseas families like to send their children, CMHC researchers found.

"We think that it's a representative picture of what's happening out there. But we intend to also look at alternative sources of data (around foreign ownership) as well going forward," Ted Tsiakopoulos, a regional economist with CMHC, said in an interview.

More than anything, though, the annual survey paints a stunning picture of a region undergoing a remarkable rental renaissance as home ownership climbs further out of reach and more people look to live close to work.

Even as some 14,000 to 15,000 new condos came on stream across the GTA this year — and some 29 per cent of them were put up for rent — Toronto's downtown vacancy rate dropped from a historic low of 1.6 per cent last year to just 1.1 per cent this year, the survey found.

"We're more bullish on rental demand than we are on ownership demand going forward. That's great news for investors and the condo market," says Tsiakopoulos.

"Since the new millennium, we've seen this re-urbanization — this movement back to the city, and especially into the core. In some ways, the stigma of renting is gone. This new echo boom generation sees rental accommodation in a different light."

About 34,000 new households a year are created in Toronto through immigration and in-migration from other provinces — something that's also likely to increase as slumping oil prices impact the Western economy. Of those, about 11,000 are renters, Tsiakopoulos says.

But just 1,100 purpose-build rental apartments were built last year across the GTA.

"That's a big gap to fill, and condos are filling that void. There is a market for this product, and investors see that."

The average two-bedroom rent in a condo building in the core this year was $2,285, up eight per cent from $2,115 a year ago.

Rental condos rates also increased 13.3 per cent from 2012 to 2013.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A condo project goes up near Lake Shore and Park Lawn. Despite condo boom in GTA rental supply is not meeting demand, CMHC survey says. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORONTO STAR

Quoted

"This new echo boom generation sees rental accommodation in a different light."

Ted Tsiakopoulos, CMHC economist

Details

The rental report, which covers the period up to the end of October, found that the average vacancy rate for purpose-built rentals across the GTA has remained unchanged at 1.6 per cent.

- Rent for the average two-bedroom apartment rose 2.7 per cent in the GTA during that period.

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Indonesia

Jakarta court rejected bid to dismiss abuse case: Teacher's family

The family of a Canadian teacher accused of sexually abusing three students at an international school in Indonesia says a court has rejected his bid to have the case against him dismissed.

The brother of teacher Neil Bantleman of Burlington, Ont., said family and supporters of the accused Canadian were "devastated" to hear the decision Tuesday in the South Jakarta District Court.

Neil Bantleman
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bantleman and teaching assistant Ferdinant Tjiong, who have been in custody since July, are being tried separately.

Guy Bantleman, the brother of the accused teacher, said: "Today, the judges ruled that the indictment written by the public prosecutor was determined to be legally valid."

Reports say an application for exception seeks a ruling from the court that a case should be thrown out. The prosecutor in the case presented briefs Thursday in opposition to the application.

"While exceptions are rarely granted, the baseless indictment that noted a law that now does not exist, and is vague in its accusations, we felt was another strong argument for the case to be dismissed," Guy Bantleman said.

Both Bantleman and Tjiong have maintained their innocence as do fellow teachers and the principal at the Jakarta International School.

Five janitors at the school are being tried over the same allegations. A sixth died in custody. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Privacy Commissioner Brian Beamish has ordered Rouge Valley to overhaul its system so that all access to patient files can be tracked. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hospital told to fix privacy shortcomings

Rouge Valley Hospital. No improvements made a year after two workers accessed patients' records in order to sell them, says watchdog

More than a year after discovering a massive privacy breach, Rouge Valley Hospital still has no way of finding out whether any confidential patient records have been inappropriately accessed, Ontario's privacy watchdog revealed Tuesday.

An investigation by the privacy commissioner found the hospital's computer system preserves only two weeks of user history. It was only after one careless employee admitted to stealing records and another left patient records on a printer that the privacy breaches were discovered.

Privacy Commissioner Brian Beamish ordered Rouge Valley to overhaul its system so that all access to patient files can be tracked. He also ordered the hospital to improve confidentiality training and privacy breach management procedures.

He has given the hospital until Sept. 16, 2015, to comply, and is keeping the name of the employees involved and a financial institution involved secret.

This summer, Rouge Valley revealed that two employees had accessed the records of more than 14,000 mothers who gave birth there between 2009 and 2013, so as to sell them Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs).

Last month, one of the two employees, former clerk Shaida Bandali, was charged by the Ontario Securities Commission with selling securities without a licence after she allegedly sold as many as 8,300 patient records to an RESP dealer for a fee. The other hospital employee has not been identified or charged, nor have any RESP providers.

Rouge Valley Hospital, Bandali, the other unnamed employee and the RESP provider are the target of a $400-million class-action lawsuit on behalf of patients whose privacy was breached. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"This kind of behaviour ... is unacceptable, and staff should be clear that if they do it, there's a good chance they'll get caught."

Privacy Commissioner Brian Beamish

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Uber responds to legal battle with diplomacy

Uber says it's looking to Toronto's top politicians, including Mayor John Tory, for a political solution instead of the current legal battle to shut down the company's ride-sharing operations.

"Uber believes that we as a company — and ride-sharing in general, should and can be regulated in Canadian cities," said Ian Black, general manager of Uber Toronto, in a speech to the Canadian Club on Tuesday.

"We want to work with politicians across the country to make this happen."

Uber has operated in Toronto since 2012, initially offering taxi and limo services, and has now branched into UberX, which lets ordinary drivers use personal vehicles to pick up fares.

The city has always insisted that Uber, which has grown to become a giant company operating in 250 cities around the world, must abide by local taxi regulations, and must get a brokerage licence.

Quoted

"The old-fashioned brokerage rules just don't make sense."

Ian Black, GM for Uber Toronto

Uber has argued that it is not a taxi company, but rather a technology company whose smartphone application merely links riders with drivers.

In his speech, Black suggested it was reaching out to city councillors in hopes of finding a political solution. He pointed to new regulations adopted in at least 20 U.S. jurisdictions, including Washington, D.C., that specifically deal with ride-sharing applications.

The city has filed an injunction asking an Ontario court to shut down Uber's operations. The case will be heard in May.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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The scene on Dec. 17, 1954, when a Trans-Canada Airlines flight crashed in the rural outskirts of Brampton. Everyone on board lived. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Recalling a Christmas 'miracle'

Brampton farm field. 60 years after plane crash, survivors remember the mayhem

Before her afternoon bridge game, Roma Watson walks calmly toward a cluster of Brampton homes where, 60 years ago, she escaped the wreckage of a fiery plane.

"It landed about where that red house is there," says Gord McClure, 69, walking with her on this journey back in memory, through a parkette near the Mount Pleasant GO station. "It jumped over three farms and landed there.... The ground was frozen, you'd remember that."

"Yep. I don't remember too much about it, but I remember burning," says Watson, 81.

McClure, who was nine years old then, had been at a Christmas concert with his family and returned home to see flashing emergency lights in the normally peaceful countryside.

"23 LIVE" proclaimed the Toronto Daily Star the next day: "Christmas miracle."

"It's totally different now of course, with all these houses," Watson says.

"You haven't changed much; you're well preserved," says McClure, who has Watson laughing as they reach the approximate crash site, now Trudelle Crescent in Brampton, a collection of two-storey homes, one decorated with inflatable Christmas decorations.

The survivors remember a different scene: the sound of exploding oxygen tanks, the smell of singed hair, the dark, smoky interior of the plane.

The flight was travelling from Tampa, Fla., with 16 passengers and seven crew. The "Connie," was a new plane to Trans-Canada Airlines (now Air Canada).

On Dec. 17, 1954, the clouds were low and ragged, only 90 metres above what was then Malton Airport. Sleet and snow reduced visibility. The pilots, having no visual reference to the ground, were forced to make an instrument approach for Runway 10. The plane descended quickly.

When it finally came to a stop, the plane was in three pieces. There were flash fires in the cabin.

Outside the plane, everyone was dazed, but alive.

A board of inquiry blamed the accident on "negligence on the part of the captain," who believed he was much closer to the airport than was the case.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Yannick Gagne stands in the new Musi-Café under construction in Lac-Mégantic, Que., on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. The restaurant-bar at ground zero of the deadly train derailment and explosion that killed 47 people in July 2013 is back in business. The Musi-Café quietly opened its doors to the public Monday in a new location, about 400 metres from the original site. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Musi-Café reopens near old location

Lac-Mégantic. Restaurant located near the site of the Quebec train disaster is open for business once again

Workers comb through debris after a train derailed on July 9, 2013 causing explosions of railway cars carrying crude oil, killing 47 people as a result.
PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The restaurant-bar at ground zero of the deadly train derailment and explosion that killed 47 people in Quebec in July 2013 is back in business.

The Musi-Café quietly opened its doors to the public in Lac-Mégantic on Monday, about 400 metres from the original site.

Owner Yannick Gagne said only three of his original employees have returned to work with him at his new establishment.

"One of them is my chef, a friend," he told The Canadian Press in a phone interview.

"I have a girl who worked for me for three or four years — she's coming back — and one of my good friends, Karine Blanchette, will handle all the artists who will come here."

At the time of the disaster, Blanchette told reporters two children were left orphans after one of her friends died in the tragedy.

Many of the 47 victims were inside the Musi-Café when a runaway oil-tanker train rolled off the tracks and exploded in the heart of the town.

Gagne lost three workers in the blast and about a dozen have decided not to come back to work with him.

He now has a staff of about 20, which is five more employees than before.

Gagne also said that on Monday, not a lot of people showed up during the morning and that there was also a small crowd at lunch.

He added he believes the locals probably assumed the new place would be crowded.

Gagne, who had financing problems in the past, said the new restaurant-bar will cost $1.5 million when all the bills are finally paid.

But he is getting financial help.

"We have had confirmation that the federal government will be there to help us," he said.

"The provincial government has provided a loan, a financial bridge (and) we'll be able to finish the project and pay everybody."

Gagne is planning an official "red carpet and champagne" opening in February.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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School delays exams due to online comments

Dalhousie University. Abusive comments on social media led to dentistry exams being moved to January for female students' safety

Dalhousie University has postponed exams at its dentistry school and launched an investigation after sexually violent comments were posted on a social media site about female students at the Halifax school.

University president Richard Florizone said Tuesday the school has a responsibility to ensure it is free of harassment and is looking at ways to deal with the allegations.

"People are deeply disappointed and concerned," he said after a meeting with deans at the school. "People find the language and the conversation entirely unacceptable."

The school said the comments were reportedly shared on a Facebook page, which has since been taken down. He said a complaint was brought to his attention by a student within the past week and it was being dealt with under the school's harassment policy. But Florizone said he became more involved when more information became public Monday.

Florizone said the school has postponed remaining fourth-year exams in the faculty of dentistry and will reschedule them in January, citing anxiety among students that has been caused by the Facebook page.

The university said it is talking to both those who were involved in creating the page and women who were featured on it. But Florizone said it wasn't yet clear what the consequences might be for the dentistry students who created it.

In its students' code of conduct, behavioural expectations include warnings, suspensions or expulsions.

Jackie Stevens of the Avalon Sexual Assault Centre in Halifax said the postings were particularly disturbing because they involved male students degrading their female peers.

"They're specifically targeting certain women and they're talking about inciting sexualized violence and degradation on specific women," she said.

She called on Dalhousie to take the incident seriously and look at the safety of students in the program while trying to increase respect for women in the faculty. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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'Closure.' Give mom Silver Cross for her son: Petition

Denise Stark
COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The mother of a Canadian soldier who was sent a one-penny government cheque after her son killed himself following a tour of duty in Afghanistan deserves a Memorial Cross, supporters say in a new petition.

They say it is unfair for military authorities to refuse to award Denise Stark the medal — often called the Silver Cross — for what they see as the service-related loss of Cpl. Justin Stark, 22, who was a reserve soldier who served a seven month deployment to Afghanistan.

In October 2011, 10 months after his return to Canada, he killed himself at the John Weir Foote Armouries in Hamilton.

"It would be a sense of a closure, which we don't have, knowing that Justin's service would be recognized — a recognition that I feel is long overdue," Stark told The Canadian Press Tuesday.

"It's time for the government to step up and just do the right thing."

The petition calls on Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Defence Minister Rob Nicholson, and Veterans Affairs Minister Julian Fantino to intervene in what they call the "gross injustices" perpetrated on the family.

A board of inquiry concluded in March that his tour in Afghanistan did not cause post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which contributed to his suicide. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Better representation

Canada wants more women on bills: Survey

The results of a new online survey suggest many Canadians would like to see women better represented on bank notes.

The Bank of Canada poll asked for input on how bills could best reflect the country. Responses included more gender equality and a better celebration of women. The questionnaire came after women's groups criticized the central bank for removing the so-called Famous Five women on the $50 note in the most-recent series of polymer bills.

The website for an online petition protesting the omission says it has 52,000 signatures from people concerned about the shortage of women on money.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Medical pot

Feds lose bid to limit growing weed at home

The Conservative government has lost its latest attempt to prevent medical marijuana users from growing pot at home, with the Federal Court of Appeal unanimously voting to uphold an injunction exempting patients from an overhaul of the system.

New rules were introduced this year prohibiting home-growing and instead shifted production to commercial operations, but a group of patients is challenging that in a case expected to be heard in 2015.

A Federal judge issued an injunction in the spring allowing authorized patients to continue to grow and possess marijuana until their case is resolved.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Amnesty International director general Alex Neve addressing a news conference earlier this month on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Amnesty slams feds' priorities

Under fire. Protection of rights of aboriginal people, companies in the mining industry overseas, Canadians imprisoned abroad

Amnesty International's Canada branch has issued a wide-ranging attack on the Harper government for making economic development a higher priority than human rights — especially in resource development.

Alex Neve, Amnesty's director general, said the organization wants human rights issues to be on the agenda for the federal election in 2015.

Amnesty is accusing the government of doing too little to ensure that the rights of aboriginal people are adequately protected in the hundreds of major resource projects that are planned for the next decade. A spokeswoman for Natural Resources Minister Greg Rickford said the government has gone to great lengths to consult with First Nations on resources projects.

Amnesty also said Canadian companies in the mining industry are not being held to account for human rights violations overseas.

Amnesty said the government is selectively deciding to help some Canadians in prisons overseas and not others. For example, the government has intervened on behalf of Huseyin Celil in China, Bashir Makhtal in Ethiopia, Mohamed Fahmy and Khaled Al-Qazzaz in Egypt, but not Ronald Smith, who is on death row in the United States, or convicted terrorist Omar Khadr.

A spokesman for Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird defended the government's record in defending human rights. "You can see it in our dedication to empowering women, including work for young girls in the maternal and child health initiative, and our campaign to end child, early and forced marriage," Adam Hodge said in an emailed statement.

Amnesty said that while the government's signature aid initiatives are good, its focus on maternal, newborn and child health and early forced marriage in the developing world will be undermined if full reproductive rights are not included. The government has faced criticism for not funding abortion-related projects in those development initiatives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maple syrup

New rules target spurious products

Mock maple syrup makers had better watch out: It's about to get a lot harder to pass off a knockoff as the bona fide Canadian breakfast-table staple.

After more than a decade of talks, new rules are being adopted across North America to ensure consumers have a better idea of what kind of maple syrup they're buying.

The changes, which will come into effect over the next two years, will harmonize the grading system for maple syrup produced in Canada and the United States.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is also adopting a new system for classing pure maple syrup by colour. And labels will include new "flavour descriptors."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Robin Williams top Google search in 2014

The death of a beloved actor, quadrennial sporting events, a new smartphone, and a deadly outbreak topped Google Canada's annual list of the most popular trending search queries.

After excluding routine searches that are entered by users every day of every year - most commonly for Facebook, Google itself, and YouTube — Robin Williams was found to be the top trending search term of 2014 in Canada.

Soccer's World Cup was second, followed by the iPhone 6, the Winter Olympics, Ebola, the late Philip Seymour Hoffman, Hunger Games star Jennifer Lawrence, the late Joan Rivers, Jian Ghomeshi and the disease ALS, which went viral as the ice bucket challenge spread around the world.

After Ghomeshi, the top trending searches for Canadian people were former Toronto mayor Rob Ford, the late former finance minister Jim Flaherty, tennis star Eugenie Bouchard, and Olympic bronze medallist snowboarder Mark McMorris.

Google users typically start queries with "how to" and the most common of those searches in Canada were vote, blog, puree, fundraise, Snapchat, kayak, tune, wean, moonwalk and henna. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Top events

The shootings on Parliament Hill came in seventh on the list of top Canadian searches for events, behind the World Cup, the Olympics, the disappearance of the Malaysia Airlines plane, the Ebola outbreak, the Ukraine-Russia conflict, and the Wimbledon tennis tournament.

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METROLINX

Taliban massacre kills 132 children at school

Nine adults dead. Pakistani official says another 121 students wounded in Peshawar military-run facility

Taliban gunmen stormed a military-run school in the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar on Tuesday, killing at least 141 people, mostly children, before Pakistani officials declared a military operation to clear the school over.

The overwhelming majority of the victims were students at the school, which instructs grades 1 to 10. Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif condemned the assault and rushed to Peshawar to show his support for the victims.

As darkness fell on the area, officials said they had cleared the school of militants.

A Pakistani military spokesman, Asim Bajwa, said 141 people died in the attack: 132 children and nine staff members. He declared the operation over and said the area had been cleared. An additional 121 students and three staff members were wounded.

He said seven attackers wearing explosives vests died in the assault. It was not immediately clear if the militants were all killed by the soldiers or whether they blew themselves up, he said. Bajwa described an assault that seemed designed purely to terrorize the children rather than take anyone hostage to further the militant group's aims.

"Their sole purpose, it seems, was to kill those innocent kids. That's what they did," he said.

The horrific attack, claimed by the Tehreek-e-Taliban, a Pakistani militant group trying to overthrow the government, sent dozens of wounded flooding into local hospitals as terrified parents searched for their children.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif vowed that the country would not be cowed by the violence.

"The fight will continue. No one should have any doubt about it," Sharif said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"My son was in uniform in the morning. He is in a casket now. My son was my dream. My dream has been killed." **Tahir Ali** talking about his 14-year-old son, Abdulah

Possible payback

A Taliban spokesman said the attack was to avenge the killings of Taliban members by Pakistani authorities.

- **Offensive.** The Pakistani military launched an operation in the nearby North Waziristan tribal area in June. A widespread backlash had failed to materialize till Tuesday.
- **Apparent calm.** Peshawar has been the target of frequent attacks in the past but has seen a relative lull recently.

Pakistani parents escort their children outside a school attacked by the Taliban in Peshawar, run school in the northwestern Pakistani city, killing and wounding scores, officials said, in

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Pakistan, Tuesday, as a military soldier looks on. Taliban gunmen stormed a military-the highest-profile attack to hit the region in months. B.K. BANGASH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistanis in Toronto react to 'horrific and inhuman' attack

The deadliest attack to hit Pakistan in recent years left a Toronto professor — originally from Peshawar — and others demanding action.

Ryerson's Murtaza Haider on Tuesday renewed calls he's been making for years on Western governments to help fight against the Taliban in a conflict he says is feeding terrorism around the world.

"It's a wake-up call for us to go after the very foundations of this militancy," said Haider, an associate professor at Ryerson University.

The attack at an army-run school killed 141 people, 132 of them children. It's the most recent episode of violence in a long conflict that's left tens of thousands of people dead, he said.

"It's a blanket of grief that falls on you," Haider said in reaction to the latest killings. "The shock value is gone."

Senator Salma Ataullahjan called Tuesday "a defining moment" since the military launched an offensive in the militants' stronghold in the nearby North Waziristan tribal area in June.

Ataullahjan is a long-time activist in the Canadian Pakistani community and a Peshawar native. Her father, sister, brother and friends still live in the region. Some of her relatives have gone to the school that was stormed by gunmen.

"I know of one family friend who spent an hour and a half looking for her son. Luckily he was OK," she said.

"All political parties have to put their differences aside" to fight the Taliban, she added.

Zulfiqar Bhutta, co-chair of the Centre for Global Child Health at SickKids, went to a school near the one that was attacked. His family and friends are safe, but he knows colleagues and pediatricians who are "traumatized."

"The indiscriminate massacre of innocent children is a stark reminder of the cruelty and mindless violence that confronts Pakistan today," he said.

The attack pushed through the numbness that can set in when people get used to violence, said Tariq Amin-Khan, an associate professor at Ryerson who was born in northern Pakistan.

He sees hope that in a region plagued by fractious politics the magnitude of the event could bring together disparate sides.

"That's the only sense of hope that people have in Pakistan," he said.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD AND GILBERT NGABO/METRO

Education a crime?

"You ... wonder whether education is actually a crime in Pakistan."

President of the Canada Pakistan Professionals Association Fahad Meer

Horror

"This is a horrific and inhuman act."

Ryerson University's associate professor Tariq Amin-Khan

Speechless

"There are no words strong enough to condemn this."

Host of Radio Pakistan Toronto Arshad Bhatti

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Australian leaders ask how gunman with violent history remained at large

Deadly siege. Man Haron Monis was out on bail when he took 17 people hostage Monday

A girl lays flowers at a makeshift memorial Tuesday near the site where a gunman held hostages for 16 hours at a cafe in Sydney, Australia. STEVE CHRISTO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horror over a deadly incident transformed into anger Tuesday as leaders of a grieving nation demanded to know how a man with a violent criminal history slipped through the cracks and ended up in the downtown Sydney café where he took 17 people hostage.

The 16-hour siege ended in a barrage of gunfire and screams early Tuesday morning when police stormed into the Lindt Chocolat Café in a desperate bid to free the hostages. Two of the hostages were killed, as was the gunman, Man Haron Monis, a 50-year-old Iranian-born self-styled cleric described by Australia's prime minister as a deeply disturbed person carrying out a "sick fantasy."

"How can someone who has had such a long and checkered history not be on the appropriate watch list? And how can someone like that be entirely at large in the community?" Prime Minister Tony Abbott asked at a news conference.

"These are questions we need to look at carefully and calmly and methodically. That's what we'll be doing in the days and weeks ahead."

"We are all outraged that this guy was on the street," New South Wales Premier Mike Baird said. "We need to ensure that everything is done to learn from this."

Monis was convicted and sentenced last year to 300 hours of community service for sending what a judge called "grossly offensive" letters to families of soldiers killed in Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009. He later was charged with being an accessory to the murder of his ex-wife. Earlier this year, he was charged with the 2002 sexual assault of a woman. He had been out on bail on all the charges.

That history prompted a flurry of questions that remained unanswered Tuesday. Why was Monis out on bail? Why was he not on a terror watch list? How did he get a shotgun in a country with tough gun ownership laws?

The siege began when Monis walked into the café during Monday morning rush hour, trapping 17 customers and staffers inside. He had some of the hostages record videos of themselves reciting his demands: to be delivered a flag of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and to speak directly with Abbott. He also forced some to hold a flag with an Islamic declaration of faith above the shop window's inscription of "Merry Christmas."

The siege ended early Tuesday with a barrage of gunfire that left two hostages and the gunman dead; Katrina Dawson, a 38-year-old lawyer and mother of three, and Tori Johnson, the café's 34-year-old manager. Officials have yet to say whether the two died in crossfire as police stormed in or were shot by their captor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pennsylvania. Wanted ex-Marine commits suicide

An Iraq War veteran suspected of killing his ex-wife and five of her relatives was found dead of self-inflicted knife wounds Tuesday in the woods, ending a day-and-a-half manhunt.

Bradley William Stone's body was discovered a half-mile from his Pennsburg home, about 48 kilometres northwest of Philadelphia. He had cuts in the centre of his body, District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman said.

Stone, a 35-year-old former Marine sergeant, went on a 90-minute shooting rampage before daybreak Monday at three homes a few miles apart, authorities said.

As the manhunt dragged on — with SWAT teams swarming through neighbourhoods and the Philadelphia police sending in a heat-sensing helicopter — at least five schools within a few miles of Stone's Pennsburg home closed, and others were locked down.

Stone's former wife, 33-year-old Nicole Stone, was found dead in her apartment after a neighbour saw Stone fleeing around 5 a.m. with their two young daughters, authorities said. The girls were later found safe with Stone's neighbours.

A police officer searches for Bradley William Stone, Tuesday in Pennsburg, Pa. MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police went to two other homes and discovered five more people dead: Nicole Stone's mother, grandmother, sister, brother-in-law and 14-year-old niece. A 17-year-old nephew suffered wounds to the head and hands, and Ferman said he was in "very serious" condition.

Stone and his ex-wife had fought over their children's custody since she filed for divorce in 2009. He filed an emergency request for custody this month and was denied on Dec. 9, Ferman said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hawaii

Lava to hit town in seven to 10 days

Lava is about one mile from the shopping centre in the small town of Pahoa, Hawaii County Civil Defence Director Darryl Oliveira said Monday.

There's still a great deal of uncertainty about when the lava might reach the centre and what it could hit. The lava could smother one structure in the complex or cover them all, he said.

Oliveira says the county has been in touch with the merchants about evacuation plans. The county hasn't yet advised them to leave. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sierra Leone

Ebola search to start Wednesday

House searches for hidden Ebola cases are planned for Sierra Leone's capital and surroundings, where half the new infections arise.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Jeb Bush exploring presidential bid

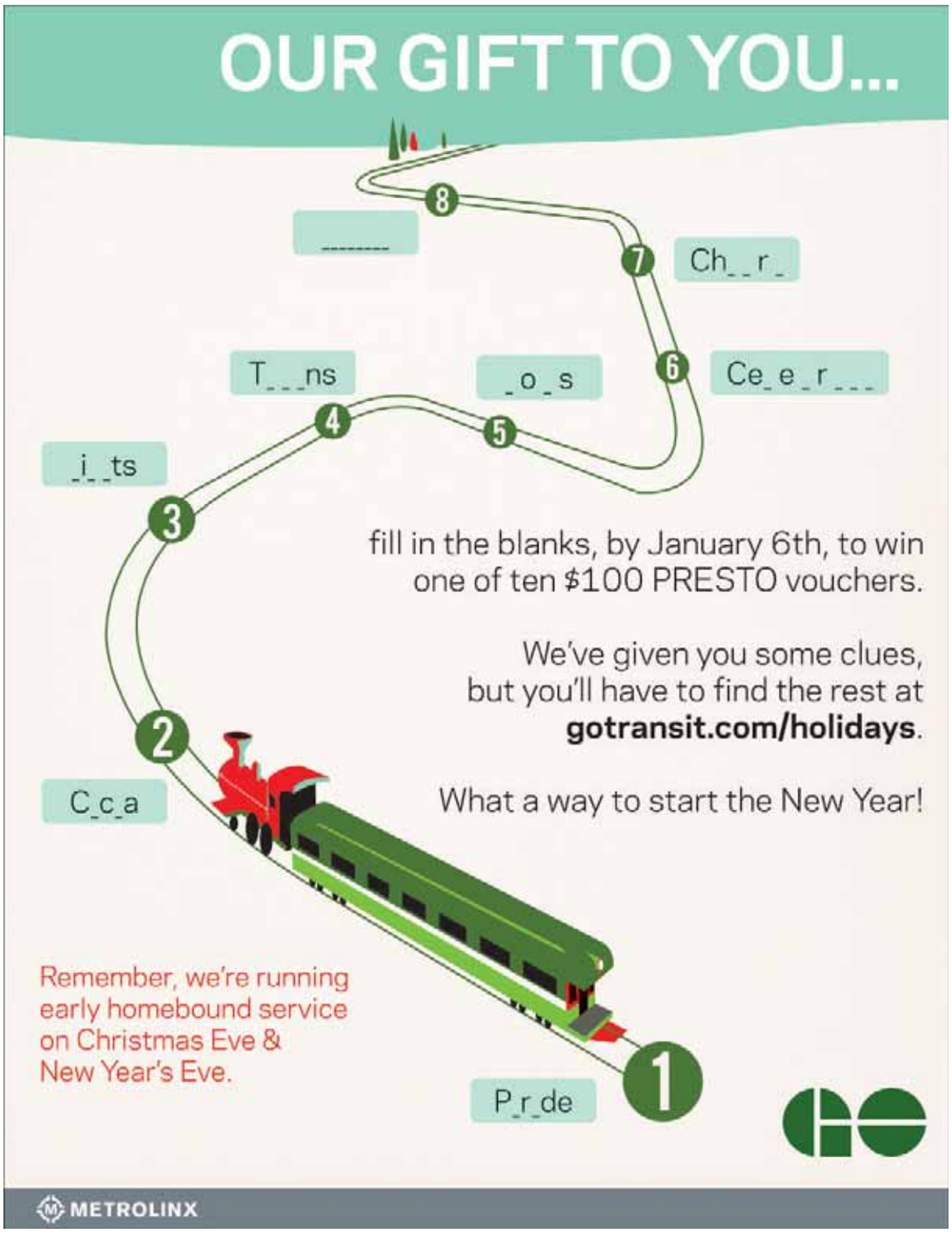
Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush
SUSAN WALSH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush announced Tuesday he will "actively explore" a campaign for president, an early move that could pre-empt some other Republicans with White House aspirations in the bidding for big donations and public support.

In a holiday message posted on Bush's Facebook page and Twitter account, the son and brother of past Republican presidents said he discussed the "future of our nation" and a potential bid for the White House with members of his family over the Thanksgiving holiday.

"As a result of these conversations and thoughtful consideration of the kind of strong leadership I think America needs, I have decided to actively explore the possibility of running for president of the United States," Bush wrote.

The announcement by Bush, who is among the more moderate potential candidates, is sure to reverberate throughout Republican politics and begin to help sort out a field that includes more than a dozen potential candidates, none of whom have formally announced plans to mount a campaign. In the race for the Democrats, Hillary Clinton is expected to declare a bid. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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METROLINX

U.S. President Barack Obama signed a $1.1-trillion government spending bill on Tuesday. DAVID GREEDY/GETTY IMAGES

Obama signs trillion-dollar spending bill

American politics. Bill prevents government shutdown over finances

With little fanfare to mark a rare bipartisan achievement, President Barack Obama on Tuesday signed a massive, $1.1 trillion spending bill that keeps the federal government operating over the next nine months.

The legislation was a compromise that angered liberals and conservatives alike but avoided a government shutdown and put off partisan clashes over immigration to next year.

It was one of the last acts of Congress under the current Republican House and Democratic-controlled Senate. In January, the new Congress will return with Republicans in charge of both chambers.

The measure retains cuts negotiated in previous budget battles and rolls back some banking regulations. But it also retains spending for Obama's health care law and pays for the administration's fight against Ebola.

The Department of Homeland Security, however, will only receive its money through Feb. 27, a condition demanded by Republican leaders to appease critics of Obama's immigration measures.

The department oversees U.S. immigration enforcement.

The agreement, negotiated mainly by Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid and House and Senate Republican leaders, was the result of a determined effort by House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell to avoid a government shutdown like the partial one in 2013 that damaged Republicans' standing with the public.

Still, conservatives such as Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas chafed at Boehner's and McConnell's decision not to use the spending bill to challenge or undo Obama's executive actions on immigration, especially ones that aim to shield more than 4 million immigrants living illegally in the U.S. from deportation and make them eligible for work permits.

Likewise, liberals complained about a provision that did away with a requirement that large banks spin off their lucrative derivatives business into separate subsidiaries. They also objected to a provision that permits wealthy political donors to increase substantially their contributions to the Democratic and Republican parties. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At the forefront

Sen. Ted Cruz and liberal Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren captured the spotlight by rallying their respective sides to oppose the legislation, laying bare the kinds of intraparty squabbles that could emerge in any future compromise efforts by Obama and the Republicans.

More privacy for app users: Commissioner

Data market.
Developers gather personal data more valuable than sales

LUKE SIMCOE
Metro in Toronto

Federal privacy commissioner Daniel Therrien TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On Tuesday, Canada's privacy commissioner added his voice to a growing chorus asking mobile app stores to highlight how developers use data collected from customers.

Federal privacy commissioner Daniel Therrien was among 23 signatories to an open letter sent to seven app marketplaces, including Google Play and the Apple App Store. The letter urged merchants to make it mandatory for developers that sell apps in their stores to include links to their privacy policies.

"Links to privacy policies on the app marketplace appear to be optional, but we think developers that collect personal information should be required to provide a link," Therrien said in a release. "Without this information, it's difficult for individuals to provide meaningful consent."

A recent study by Therrien's office found 85 per cent of mobile apps failed to explain adequately how they collect, use and share data collected from users.

"Developers are asking for information they have no real business accessing," said Christopher Parsons, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Toronto's Citizen Lab. "If a flashlight app is asking to read your SMS messages, that's a step too far."

According to Parsons, many app developers participate in a "grey market" of personal information.

"The value is not in selling apps," he said. "The value is in collecting information about individuals and then turning around and selling it to third parties."

Requiring developers to include privacy plans alongside their apps "is a step in the right direction," Parsons said, but many policies are written in "boilerplate legalese," meaning even if they're available, many consumers won't be able to interpret them.

"What commissioners could do is say that if you're going to develop a privacy policy ... you should be providing a simple, accessible version of what you're doing," he said.

Angry lawsuit to go ahead

Artist Juli Adams poses in her home and studio in Seattle in this Aug. 5 file photo, with one of her original drawings that a line of plush pet toys called "Angry Birds" was based on, and a copy of her licensing agreement with the Hartz Mountain Corporation. A U.S. federal judge has refused to dismiss her lawsuit, which argues Adams was cheated out of millions of dollars when the company that sold her line of "Angry Birds" toys reached a deal with the Finnish company that makes the insanely popular video game of the same name.

TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Sony hack

Hackers threaten moviegoers

Hackers calling themselves Guardians of Peace made ominous threats Tuesday against theatres showing Sony Pictures' film The Interview, urging people to leave their homes if located near such theatres.

The Interview is a comedy in which two television journalists become involved in a CIA plot to assassinate North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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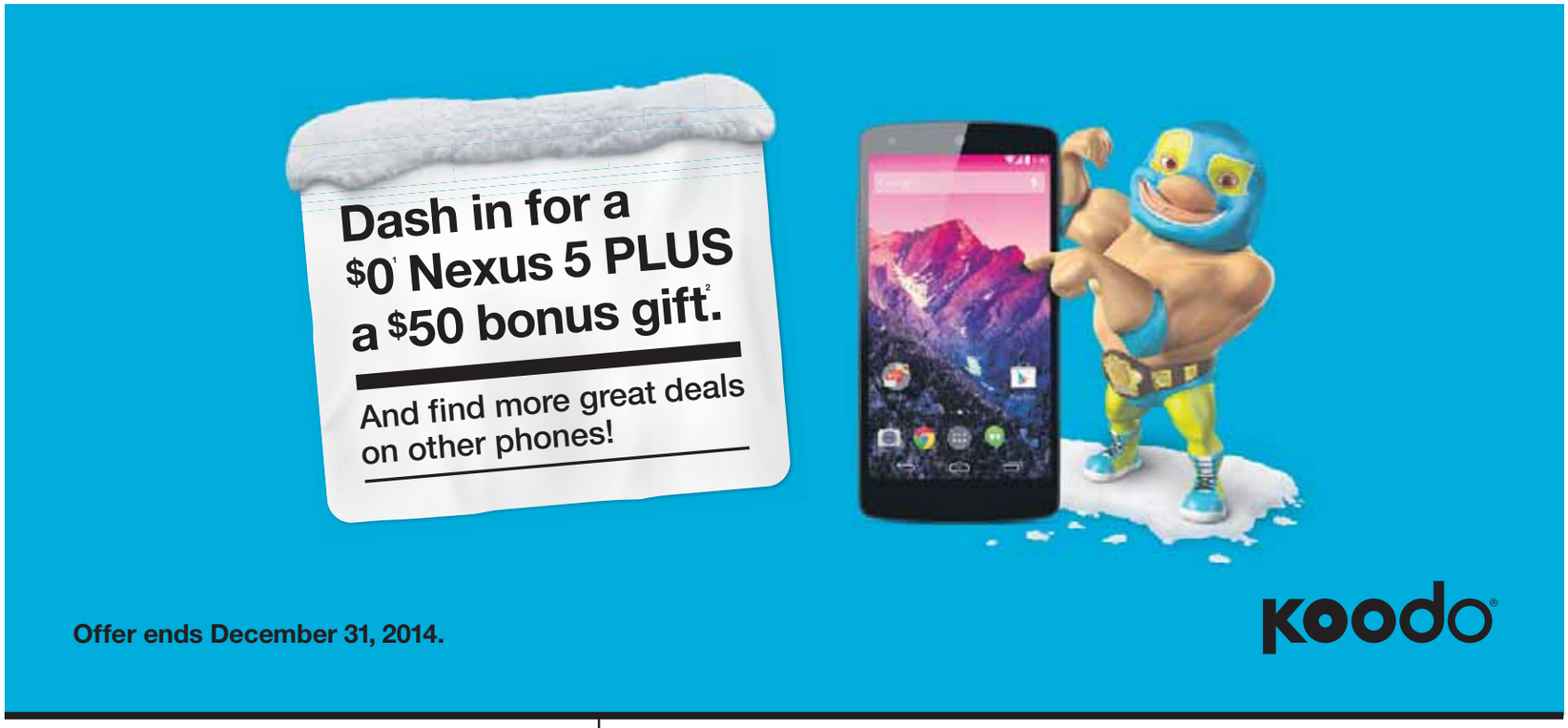

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VOICES

SELFIES IN A TIME OF TRAGEDY

It's a predictable scenario: A tragic situation occurs, such as this week's hostage crisis in Sydney. Someone takes a selfie. Public outrage follows. But as Metro's Andrew Fifield writes, our discomfort with the selfie in times of trouble may have more to do with us than it does with some inherent moral failure of those who take the images

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Events such as this week's tragedy in a Sydney café unfold in a depressingly familiar way.

Reports trickle out that something awful may be happening, but details are scarce, so we turn to social media for witnesses and those affected to fill in the gaps.

That's when the disaster selfies inevitably appear.

Some of the selfie snappers flash radiant smiles. Some of them look sufficiently solemn. All of them are criticized for making a mockery of tragedy, and that criticism is often off the mark.

Much of that criticism takes root in a misunderstanding that many, primarily older, people have about the selfie's relatively recent rise, namely that it's an inherently vain and narcissistic act.

That's absurd. Selfies are snapped for a laundry list of reasons: sharing a new shirt with friends, a wry reaction to the news, a quick self-esteem boost or a self-deprecating gag. And, yes, sometimes ego.

Whatever the reasons behind their creation, selfies have diffused into our always-changing culture. And many people are more comfortable accepting a stereotype of a self-absorbed generation with few goals outside of serial frivolity than they are with accepting that culture dares a shift without checking in with them first.

The former camp is home to the loudest voices condemning disaster selfies. If one already holds a view that selfies are little more than a self-administered ego stroke, that sticks to the image itself. The preconceived notions of the person viewing it colour the motivations of the person who took it.

Strip away the emotion and what you have are witnesses capturing an event unfolding before their eyes. By putting themselves in the frame, they're providing an index. They're documenting their lives, just as they always do — except this time, their lives overlap with a painful public event and when an information-starved media outlet picks it up, they're condemned for seeking a level of attention they never asked for.

Of course, there is a conversation to be had about taste, and rebukes aimed at more gleeful subjects are well-earned. And of course, some disaster selfie subjects may one day feel ashamed. Some of them may apologize. A few of them may even mean it.

But the instant anger and its accompanying judgment of the photographer's intention are unfair and can promote the harm critics say they're trying to prevent.

Consider this: Every autumn, a certain generation devotes a chunk of November to mourning the loss of an assassinated U.S. president. Within that chunk is much misty reminiscence about where they were, who they were with, how they reacted ... even what they were wearing. The vast majority of them were nowhere near the shots. They're inserting themselves into the event.

Sound familiar? People vividly illustrating scenes of public trauma while putting themselves in the frame? The biggest difference is they're relying on memory — the only ubiquitous documentary tool available at the time.

It's a selfie without the technology.

Are those people simply relaying their views of history, as witnessed? Or are they representative of an irreparably narcissistic generation clinging to dwindling shreds of an era when culture put them front and centre?

There could be a lot to learn by answering that question.

Mine

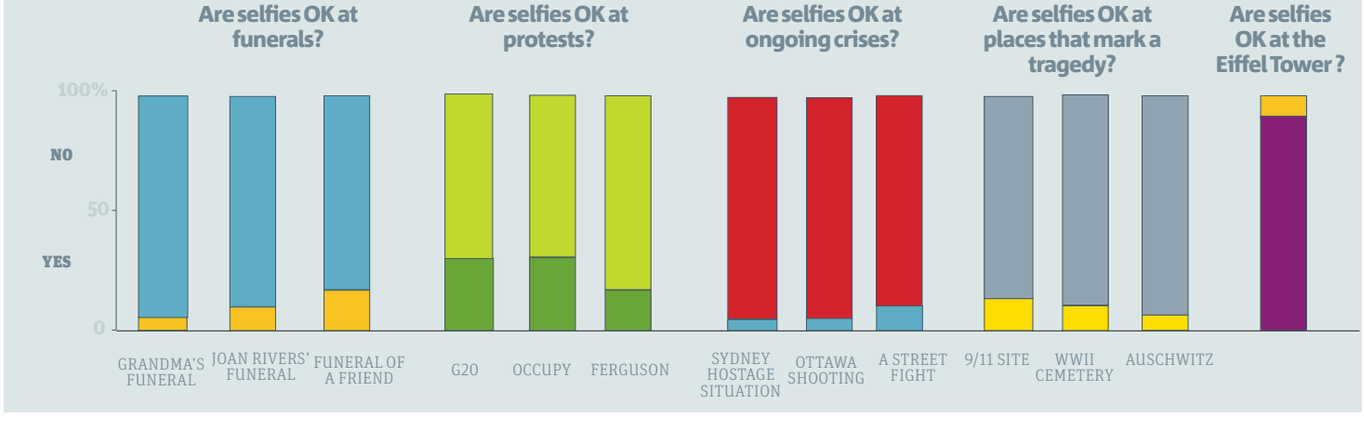
Selfie as digital stamp

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
fernando.carneiro@metronews.ca

This is mine. My face is in it, see? In the lawless world of the Internet, selfies might be the only way to ensure others don't take credit for your images.

Photos posted online instantly become public property, even when photographers do their best to protect them. As a newspaper editor, I have seen watermarks skilfully removed, copyrighted images intentionally and unintentionally shared, and been in arguments over who receives credit for an image. Selfies remind me of sharing my childhood dinner table with two brothers. If you wanted a specific cut of meat, you had to lick it. This was considered so gross it ended all arguments and the meat became yours. Selfies have that same kind of influence. Hate them all you want, but selfies are the new digital signature.

We asked you:



Controversial selfies

- A woman made the front page of the New York Post last year for taking a selfie with a suicidal man being rescued from the Brooklyn Bridge behind her.
- A TV news reporter was fired for asking Anderson Cooper for a selfie at the scene of the Ottawa cenotaph shooting in October.
- Not even Obama is safe. He received scorn for posing for a selfie with the Danish and U.K. PMs at Nelson Mandela's funeral.

metro

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Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Jon Hamm ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Mad man's no Superman: Jon snubs superhero gigs

With the glut of comic book movies coming out of the Marvel and DC universes — with extensive releases already slated through 2020 — it's kind of surprising that lantern-jawed, deep-voiced Mad Men star Jon Hamm hasn't donned some tights by now. Well, it turns out it has not been for lack of trying on the studios' parts. Hamm tells the Radio Times that he's "been in contention for quite a few" superhero films over the last few years, but has passed on them all.

"The deals that they make (actors) do are so draconian," Hamm explains. "And of course you are signed on for not only the movie that you are signed on for … but at least two more that you haven't read and you have no idea what they are going to be and all the crossover ones you are going to have to do."

OK, fine. But now at least we can have fun speculating which roles he turned down. And no fair saying "all of them." Let's get creative here.

Amy's near-tears apology leaked by Sony staff

With more leaked emails hitting the web every day, it should come as no surprise that Sony chief Amy Pascal gathered her employees this week at the studio's Culver City, Calif. lot to address the ongoing hacking scandal.

And it also shouldn't come as a surprise that we know about the apology because someone snuck out audio of it.

"It devastates me that something I did or said in a second would hurt any one of you and for that I am profoundly sorry," a "near tears" Pascal told staffers during a pair of meetings Monday, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

At least one employee seemed mollified, telling the trade, "Amy made what sounded like a serious apology."

Amy Pascal

Fantasy franchise feminism fracas!

Looking for someone to take issue with Harry Potter star Emma Watson's UN address about feminism?

Well, Game of Thrones star Maisie Williams is happy to serve.

The 17-year-old tells the Guardian that she's impatient with such "first-world feminism" and is looking to do more.

"A lot of what Emma Watson spoke about, I just think, 'That doesn't bother me,'" Williams says.

"I know things aren't perfect for women in the U.K. and in America, but there are women in the rest of the world who have it far worse."

Your move, Hermione.

Maisie Williams

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Hobbit actors by the props they keep

Movies. Martin Freeman bagged Bilbo ears as The Hobbit trilogy wrapped

IN REVIEW
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Martin Freeman as head Hobbit Bilbo Baggins. CONTRIBUTED

The release of The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies brings Peter Jackson's trilogy to a close, and marks the end of a life immersed in Middle Earth for the actors. For several of the cast, it was a years-long journey, and like any trip it's nice to pick up a souvenir as a keepsake.

According to director Peter Jackson, the actor who played the exiled dwarf king Thorin stole "the most boring thing in the world to steal," from the set of the penultimate film, The Desolation of Smaug: socks.

"I did steal every single pair of costume socks," said Richard Armitage, "because we were given a brand new pair every day."

As production on The Battle of the Five Armies wrapped, Armitage was gifted with some more interesting props including the deadly goblin cleaver Orcrist, which he keeps in an umbrella stand, "'cause I want to be able to pick it up."

Martin Freeman, who plays head Hobbit Bilbo Baggins, says he doesn't miss making the films — "I'm really proud to have done it," he says, "and I'm really glad to have done it, but I rarely miss jobs" — but kept his sword and prosthetic ears as mementos.

Unlike Freeman, Sir Ian McKellen does get sentimental when he reflects on making the movies because, "a lot of the audience seeing The Hobbit Part Three wouldn't have been born when we started filming it." After spending 13 years playing wise wizard Gandalf the Grey, he took two priceless props from the set, "Gandalf's staff, which I keep with umbrellas and walking sticks, and Gandalf's hat, which I keep in the basement."

Many actors have pilfered props from their movies. Keira Knightley walked off with Elizabeth Bennet's striped socks from Pride & Prejudice. Elijah Wood has the One Ring from Lord of the Rings and Daniel Radcliffe liberated two pairs of Harry Potter's famous round glasses, even though there was a strict policy about taking props from the set.

'The ones from the first film are absolutely tiny now," he says, "but they are very sweet."

Kristen Stewart kept the engagement ring Edward Cullen gave her at the end of Twilight: Eclipse, and Zachary Quinto took the ears he wore as Spock in Star Trek: Into Darkness, but the strangest cinematic souvenir may belong to Mark Wahlberg.

The Academy Award nominee kept the prosthetic penis he wore as Dirk Diggler in Boogie Nights. "I used to keep it in my desk drawer," he said, "and I'd take it out and slap my friends in the face with it. I don't keep many things from my movies, but that just seemed to have personal significance."

The Hobbit: the Battle of the Five Armies

Director. Peter Jackson

Stars. Benedict Cumberbatch, Richard Armitage

●●●○○

Peter Jackson's wraps up the Hobbit trilogy with a cluttered film short on story, but long on action scenes. Greedy dragon Smaug (Benedict Cumberbatch) is dispatched, but now an epic battle between Dwarf king Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage), the Orcs and every other army in the area will decide the fate of Middle Earth. Heroes and villains abound, and while there isn't quite enough actual story to justify the two-hour-and-20-minute running time, the battle between good and evil is so primal, so elemental, you can't help but get involved in it.

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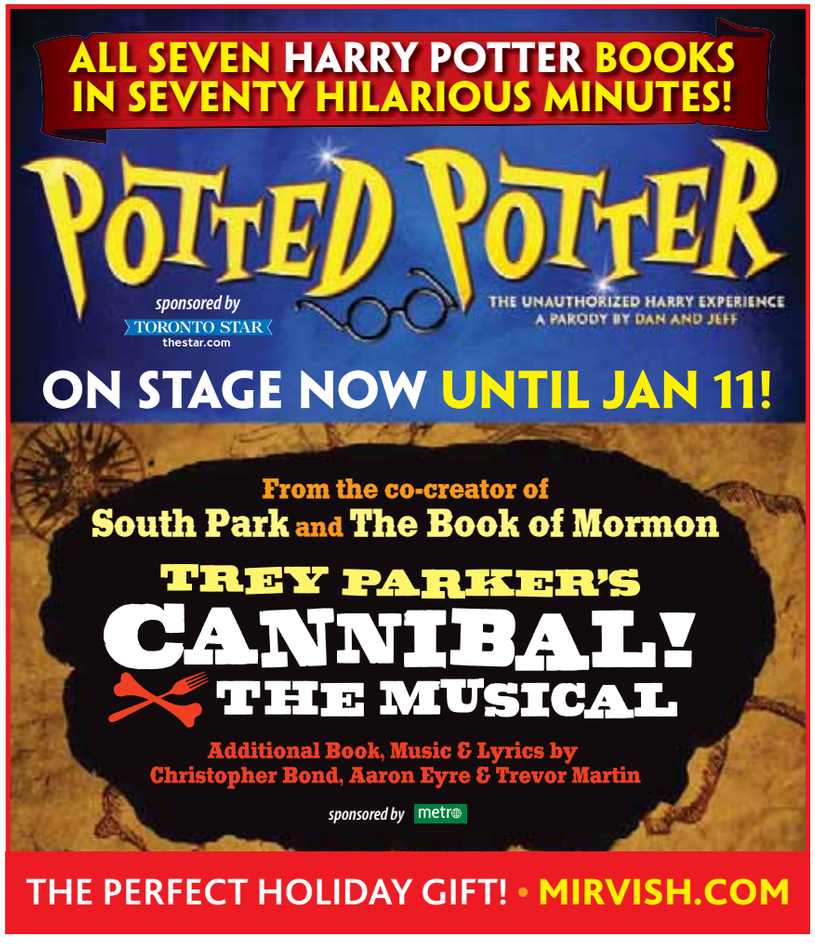
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Film awards

Boyhood CONTRIBUTED

Boyhood takes three top prizes

Richard Linklater's coming-of-age epic Boyhood has won three top prizes from the Toronto Film Critics Association, including best picture.

In addition, director Richard Linklater won best director and Golden Globe nominee Patricia Arquette won best supporting actress.

In other categories, Marion Cotillard won best actress for The Immigrant, Tom Hardy took best actor for Locke, J.K. Simmons was named best supporting actor for his spirited performance in Whiplash, and Wes Anderson's The Grand Budapest Hotel won best screenplay.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saying good night to the Museum tour

Movies. For Ben Stiller, The Secret of the Tomb is his last of the franchise

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Ben Stiller, centre, in Night at the Museum: The Secret of the Tomb. CONTRIBUTED

The third film in the Ben Stiller-starring Night at the Museum series, The Secret of the Tomb, has been billed as its final instalment. But given the success of the family-friendly franchise, isn't it a bit hasty to just call it like that? "I don't know. I mean, I'm pretty sure it is (the end) for me," Stiller says. "And that was one of the things going into it, by allowing it to be that, it allowed us to tell this story, which I think is my character sort of saying goodbye."

Of course, Stiller is savvy enough to know never to say never in Hollywood. "You never know these days with reboots and number fours," he jokes. "Maybe Edward Norton will show up in the next one. As the Hulk or something. It's one of those things where, I don't know, I won't say never, but it felt to me like that's what made sense to me at this time."

For the new instalment, Stiller and crew went to London's British Museum for filming, which was a treat in and of itself. "They had to be OK with what we were doing there because they'd never let anyone film there before," he says. "We didn't go to any special rooms or anything like that, but the Hall of Enlightenment there is pretty amazing. We basically got to spend a few nights there. The Rosetta Stone for me was the big thing that I was impressed with. That was our start mark — like, 'OK, let's go again, take two, back to the Rosetta Stone.' I even tweeted out a picture of me and Robin (Williams) standing next to it. Just the coolest thing ever."

And maybe this really is the end of the franchise, because Stiller has already taken home a keepsake. "I took the tablet home when we wrapped the movie. So I'm keeping my fingers crossed that something might happen," he says of the enchanted prop. "We'll see what happens, if anything comes to life in my house at night. I'm going to keep it in our little guest house. I have another cool memento from a movie, which are Tom Cruise's arms from Tropic Thunder, the Les Grossman arms? They're super-cool, these crazy, hairy arms with a crushed Diet Coke can in them. So maybe, who knows, the tablet might bring the arms to life at night."

Reality Bites turns 20

Speaking of sequels, has Stiller ever entertained the idea of revisiting the world of Reality Bites, his first film as a director that recently turned 20 years old? Well, not exactly.

- "We actually talked about possibly doing a TV series, but we didn't end up doing it," Stiller reveals.
- "I think it's probably for the best that we didn't do it, but it was an interesting idea to revisit it. I don't know if I would do a sequel to it. It would be kind of weird."

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Music

Newest Hall of Fame inductees

The punk trio Green Day, poet of the New York underground Lou Reed, and Lean on Me singer Bill Withers will lead a new class of inductees into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame next year.

The hall announced Tuesday that it will also welcome Joan Jett & the Blackhearts, who famously sang about loving rock 'n' roll, and make Ringo Starr, the fourth ex-Beatle, enshrined as an individual.

Besides Reed, the class includes other posthumous inductees Paul Butterfield and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

The 30th annual induction ceremony will be held at Cleveland, Ohio's Public Hall next April 18. Public tickets go on sale Thursday.

Inductees are chosen by a vote of more than 700 artists, historians and music industry representatives. An artist needed to have first released material no later than 1989.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McPhee puts on her thinking cap

Scorpion. The celeb best known for her musical talents gives her voice a rest — at least on screen

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

Katharine McPhee stars in Scorpion, which airs on City. CONTRIBUTED

If you're one of the Smash fans still smarting from the demise of the musical drama, you're not alone.

"I run into quite a few people who are still heartbroken about Smash being no longer on," says Katharine McPhee, who starred on the show. "They have to sort of recover. I have to give them their time to get over it."

But moving on is a part of life, and McPhee has moved on to Scorpion, her new drama series about a think tank of eccentric geniuses helping the Department of Homeland Security combat high-tech threats. McPhee stars as Paige Dineen, tasked with helping the brainiacs interact with everyday people — sort of the Marilyn Munster of the bunch.

The series is inspired by the life experiences of Scorpion Computer Services CEO Walter O'Brien, a computer prodigy who claims to have a 190 IQ and who serves as executive producer for the series. On the show, he's played by Elyes Gabel. And McPhee says just having O'Brien around has enriched her life in ways she wasn't expecting.

"He is incapable of simply just being, I guess, normal. He is constantly trying to figure out how to solve problems and solve people's issues," she says. "At an afternoon barbecue that our writers threw, I said, 'Yeah, I don't know what new car I want to get. My lease is up soon in, you know, like this spring or something.' And he literally just started to strategically lay out my options and what would be the best option for me to help me understand what I really wanted and what I was really looking for, because I wasn't even really aware of what I wanted to get out of a car. And basically at the end of it I was like, 'OK, cool, so this is the car I want,' and he was like, 'Yeah, pretty much.'"

Despite the show being about people with pretty impressive brain power, McPhee herself insists she's pretty far from a brainiac.

"I was terrible in school, but I do actually love statistics," she says. "I like statistics because I think they make you sound smart. Statistics. Just saying statistics sounds very intelligent, doesn't it?"

Still belting it out

Given her rise to fame on American Idol and her work on the Broadway-based drama Smash, it's not hard to believe that Katharine McPhee would be up for belting out a tune. Apparently she's as prone to singing off-camera as on. "It's nice to have Kat McPhee on set," her Scorpion co-star Eddie Kaye Thomas says. "She doesn't realize how much she sings, and it's really nice when it gets really late to hear her just casually singing a song. Last night she was singing love songs to her chihuahua."

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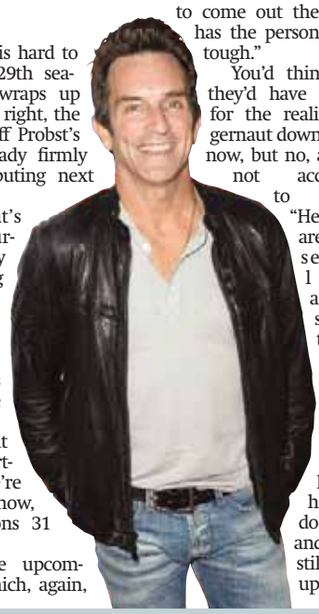
How Jeff Probst has 'survived' 29 TV seasons

Reality television. Host reflects on casting and shooting almost 30 seasons of Survivor

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood



You might find this hard to believe, but the 29th season of Survivor wraps up Wednesday. That's right, the 29th. And host Jeff Probst's thoughts are already firmly on the 30th, debuting next year.

Actually, that's not entirely accurate. He's actually already thinking beyond that. "I'm always amazed at how much time we spend on casting — months and months," he says.

"Every year it feels like we're starting over and we're once again even now, looking for Seasons 31 and 32."

And for those upcoming seasons — which, again, won't be on the air for a good long while — Probst says they're already facing some familiar problems with the casting process. "We're once again short on women," he admits. "We can find lippy, loudmouth weird guys all day, every day, but finding a woman who wants to do it, who wants to come out there and has the personality is tough."

You'd think that they'd have casting for the reality juggernaut down pat by now, but no, at least not according to Probst. "Here we are 30 seasons later and sometimes I feel like we still don't quite know how to do it yet, and we still end up with people on the show that disappoint us," he says. "I remember about Season 5 or 6, we had back-to-back interviews with people, and one woman came in and told this tragic story of losing her husband in a car accident and how it impacted her life, and all of us were bored. And then the next guy came in and was saying, 'I'm eating some chips downstairs and these potato chips I was looking at,' and we're on the floor laughing. Which guy got on the show? The potato chip guy."

While Probst may not have mastered the casting process for Survivor just yet, he has at least learned a few things about himself — even if he had to do it the hard way.

"I continue to learn about my own nature through Survivor," he says. "I had a really big life lesson when a bunch of friends came to visit the Philippines and we left the (set) and were driving home in a van. For some reason we decided to play 'When would you be voted out?' It got to me and I was thinking in my head, they're are going to say that I'll go pretty deep — maybe not win, but I know the show and I'm good with words. This is what my ego was saying. And my closest friends said, 'Probst, you'd be out so fast.' And I was shocked, but I knew from Survivor that when a group of people tell you what they think of you, they're right. And my friends said, 'Your mouth. You're too lippy. You find it funny, but a lot of other people would find it annoying and they would vote you out.'"

Wayward Pines. Sixth Sense director readies Twin Peaks-style series

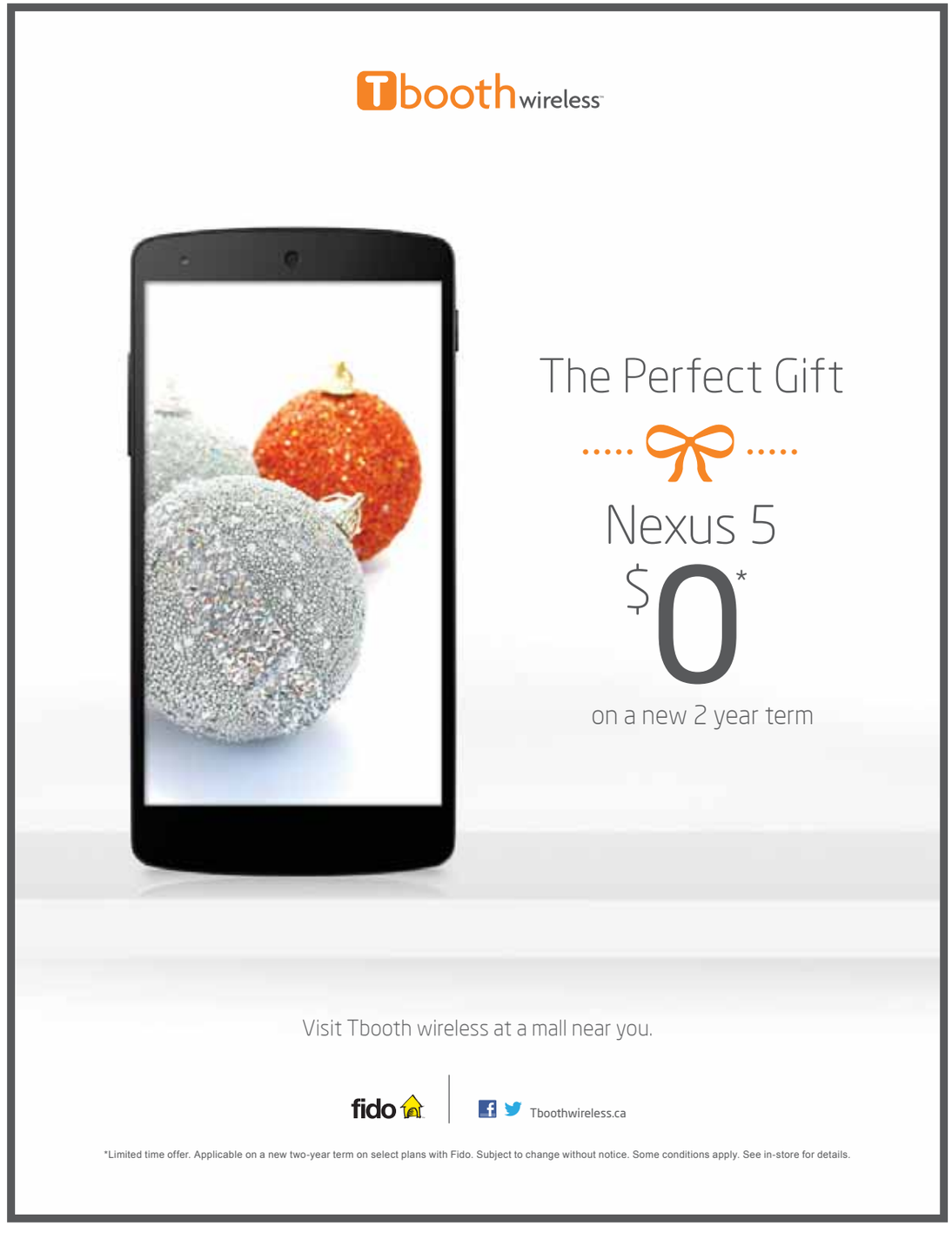
Terrence Howard, left, and Matt Dillon star in Wayward Pines. AFP FILE

Wayward Pines, the unsettling miniseries created by The Sixth Sense director M. Night Shyamalan, will air from May 14, 2015 on Fox and simultaneously on networks worldwide in a total of 125 markets, including Canada.

In a first for a TV premiere, the show will be unveiled at the same time to viewers in the U.S., Europe, Latin America, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region.

The psychological thriller, which also has an element of fantasy, centres on Ethan Burke, a federal agent investigating the disappearance of two colleagues in a strange town in Idaho. Soon after his arrival, he comes to realize that getting out of Wayward Pines will not be an easy task.

M. Night Shyamalan, the executive producer and director of the project, was inspired by Blake Crouch's novel Pines for this 10-episode miniseries, which is described as an heir to Twin Peaks. The drama features Matt Dillon, Melissa Leo, Terrence Howard, Juliette Lewis, Carla Gugino and Toby Jones. AFP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6. Be prepared to adapt — to living conditions, the weather, everything.
7. Visit CharityNavigator.org, Reliefweb.int, Idealist.org and GiveWell.org for more.

DOUG WALLACE

Deal

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Silversea Cruises is offering from $500 to $1,000 of shipboard credit, plus free suite upgrades (up to a $1,800 value) for cruises to more than 30 destinations if you book by Dec. 31. This family-owned cruise company offers smaller, more nimble adventures on luxury ships that head to the Caribbean, Africa, Alaska, Australia, Asia and more. Visit Silversea.com and click on Silver Wave or call 954-687-9067.

DOUG WALLACE

Planning

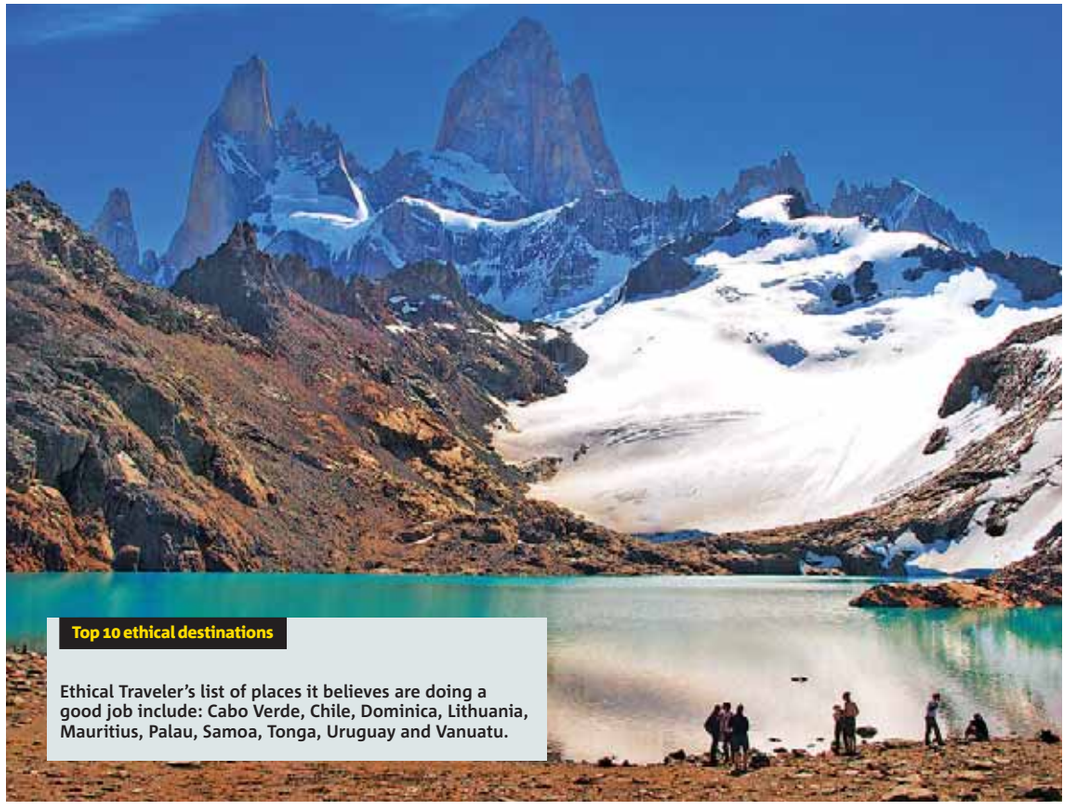
Understand your travel insurance

In the wake of the "million-dollar baby" from Saskatchewan that was born in Hawaii comes a report from the Travel Health Insurance Association. It states that more than 95 per cent of Canadians who make travel insurance claims receive the payout. The problem with the other 5 per cent is inadvertently (or deliberately) giving inaccurate health info to travel insurance providers. Get your doctor involved in your medical questionnaire to avoid the drama — not to mention the $1M. Visit thiaonline.com.

TEXT: DOUG WALLACE, PHOTO: ISTOCK

Top spots for ethical travellers

Travellers with a social conscience are being encouraged to visit places like Chile (pictured here), Samoa, Tonga and Mauritius, destinations that have been deemed among the most ethical in the world. After reviewing the national policies and practices of developing countries, editors at Ethical Traveler selected the destinations they feel are doing the best job of promoting human rights, preserving the environment and supporting social welfare. In addition to applauding countries that are doing a solid job on all three fronts, the list also serves as a guideline for globetrotters looking to travel with a clean conscience and give them confidence that their tourism dollars are supporting economies that are on the right track. "By visiting these countries, we can use our economic leverage to reward good works and support best practices," says Ethical Traveler. This year, eight of the 10 countries are island nations, including newcomers such as Vanuatu, Samoa and Tonga. Chile and Uruguay are the only mainland winners. AFP



Top 10 ethical destinations

Ethical Traveler's list of places it believes are doing a good job include: Cabo Verde, Chile, Dominica, Lithuania, Mauritius, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

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Visit Mayan archeological sites near Cancun, such as Chichen Itza, Tulum and Coba.

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Cancun's waters are home to part of the Mesoamerican Reef.

Not just for spring break

Cancun. Destination offers something for foodies, volunteers and adventure-seekers

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
For Metro

Cancun, which attracts more than 11 million visitors each year, is well-known for its party scene and nightlife.

But it's much more than a "spring break" destination, said Jesus Almaguer, CEO of the Cancun Convention and Visitors Bureau. Indeed, it's emerging as a destination for foodies, volunteers and adventure seekers.

"(Visitors) don't just want great beaches … they also want amazing food," he said.

It should be noted, however, that Cancun has three "Blue Flag" certified beaches, meaning they meet criteria for water quality, security and infrastructure.

The area offers four AAA Five Diamond award-winning restaurants, including Le Chique in Azul Sensatori, which recently received the award for the first time, and top eateries that focus on world cuisine and even Yucatecan fare — an ode to the destination's cultural roots.

Almaguer recommends La Habichuela Sunset for Yucatecan fare, Taco Queto in Holbox for some of the best local street food, and Las Nubes Hotel in Isla Holbox for tamarind margaritas and freshly caught ceviche. To taste Mexico's wines, head to the underground cellar in Xcaret.

Voluntourism is another big trend, and Cancun offers a variety of community programs for those who want to volunteer while on vacation. Tour operator Travel Future, for example, has several voluntour options, from making piñatas with intellectually disadvantaged youth to releasing sea turtle hatchlings into the sea.

More visitors are looking to get off the resort these days.

Did you know?

- Cancun has only been in existence since 1970.
- Cancun is a Mayan word that means "nest of serpents."
- More whale sharks gather in Cancun than any other place in the world.
- Cancun's waters are home to part of the Mesoamerican Reef, the second largest reef in the world after the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.
- Cancun's sand is made from crushed coral and is cool to the touch, so you won't burn your feet.

"Many visitors are now planning trips to Isla Mujeres to experience a laid-back Caribbean island or to Puerto Morelos to explore the small fishing village and taste the freshly caught seafood it is known for," Almaguer said. "Also, Isla Holbox is becoming a romantic getaway for couples who want to get away from it all and spend alone time with incredible island views."

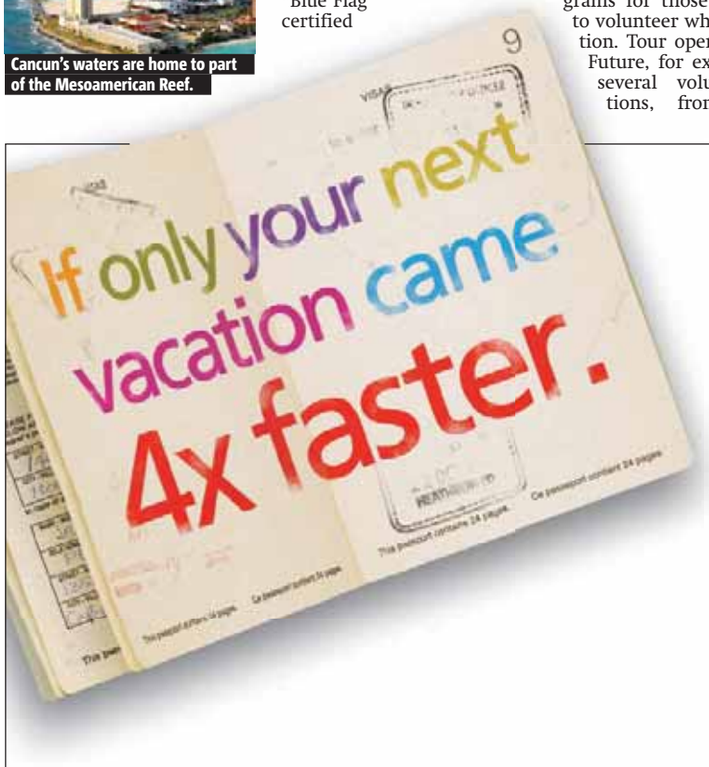
Isla Holbox is a small island about two hours north of Cancun, home to several boutique hotels (you won't find a hotel with more than 40 rooms), sand-paved roads, and a laid-back Caribbean vibe — there are no cars here, only golf carts and bikes. Holbox is also known for its calm waters (ideal for windsurfing) and the annual whale shark migration in its waters.

Adventure-seekers can swim with whale sharks, the largest species of fish in the world.

"These fish are the size of a school bus, yet are not aggressive and only feed on plankton," Almaguer said.

Cancun is becoming known as a romantic getaway for couples.

Holbox is known for its calm waters, which are ideal for windsurfing. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CANCUN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU



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Che's son offers revolutionary Cuban tour

The tour

La Poderosa Tours goes to lengths to emphasize its revolutionary roots. One of the guides is Camilo Sanchez — son of Cuban guerrilla Antonio Sanchez Diaz, also known as "Marcos" — a fighter killed during a 1967 battle.

The tour also includes a visit to Che's base in colonial Havana and a trip to Santa Clara, a city 270 kilometres east of Havana that was the site of a key 1958 battle.

This Che Guevara statue stands in Santa Clara, Cuba. ISTOCK

Unique travel. Hop on a Harley and write your own Motorcycle Diaries with this trip hosted by Ernesto Guevara

The youngest son of Cuban revolutionary Che Guevara has opened an agency offering two-wheel tours of the Caribbean island nation on Harley-Davidsons, in a nod to his father's passion for motorcycles.

The Marxist guerrilla's storied motorbike journey through South America was immortalized in the 2004 film Motorcycle Diaries, directed by Brazil's Walter Salles and starring Mexican actor Gael Garcia Bernal.

The trip, spanning from December 1951 to July 1952, took the 23-year-old revolutionary through Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela.

The tour stops in Santa Clara, site of a key battle during the Cuban revolution. ISTOCK

Now, Ernesto Guevara wants to honour his father's famous ride by giving visitors to Cuba a unique trip through the country on Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Prices start at $3,000 US per person and go up to $5,800 US for six- or nine-day trips. Airline costs are not included.

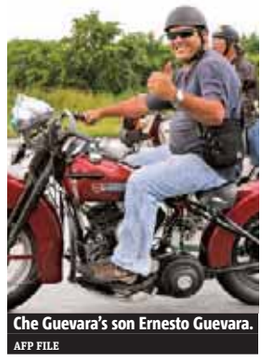
Itineraries give visitors a glimpse of "the varied landscapes of this beautiful island," while also offering "intimate contact with a part of the history of a unique revolution," according to the website of La Poderosa Tours, run by 49-year-old Ernesto, who is also a lawyer.

The company promises a luxury visit, including stays at five-star hotels and a visit to Che's mausoleum.

"We will make your trip a unique experience, an unforgettable memoir. We will personally take care of every detail during your journey," the website says.

The company's name comes from Che's own moniker for the British Norton 500 motorbike he rode through South America with Argentine companion Alberto Granado.

That trip left a strong impression on the young guerrilla, who was preparing to graduate from medical school at the time. **AFP**



Che Guevara's son Ernesto Guevara. AFP FILE

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See www.yourcubacruise.com for full terms and conditions.

When tradition trumps trends

Dessert or host gift.
Peanut Butter Rum Balls

This recipe makes about four dozen rum balls. EMILY RICHARDS

1. In a large bowl, combine the icing sugar, cookie crumbs, butter, coconut, peanuts, peanut butter, sugar and rum until well blended.

2. Shape mix into 3/4-inch (2 cm) balls and roll in granulated sugar, sprinkles or chopped almonds. Place in airtight container lined with waxed paper and refrigerate. EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups (625 ml) icing sugar
- 2 cups (500 ml) chocolate cookie crumbs
- 1 cup (250 ml) butter, softened
- 1 cup (250 ml) flaked coconut
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) finely chopped peanuts
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) smooth natural peanut butter
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) granulated sugar
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) rum
- Granulated sugar, sprinkles and chopped almonds, to garnish

Christmas Shortbread.
The quintessential holiday cookie comes together quickly and can be personalized

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

I make this very simple shortbread each year and have done different things with it. I have added vanilla extract, dried lavender, crystallized ginger, grated orange rind, coloured sugar and even dipped it in chocolate. No matter what I do with it, it still is a family favourite.

1. In a stand mixer or large bowl using hand mixer, beat butter until it looks white and very fluffy. Beat in icing sugar and vanilla. Beat in 1 cup (250 ml) of flour at a time until it becomes very stiff and then using hands bring the dough together and knead slightly to make smooth dough.

2. Divide dough in half and roll out on floured surface to desired thickness (I like mine a bit thicker) and using your favourite cookie cutters cut out shapes and place on parchment paper-lined baking sheets. Repeat with remaining dough and continue to re-roll the dough until you use it up.

3. Bake at 375 F (190 C) for about 12 minutes or until edges are just a hint of golden brown.

Ingredients

- 2 cups (500 ml) butter, very soft but not melted
- 1 cup (250 ml) icing sugar
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) vanilla extract
- 4 cups (1 l) all purpose flour

This recipe makes about 5 dozen cookies (depends on size of cookie cutter you use). EMILY RICHARDS

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Presents for every point in the pursuit

Career. Need gift ideas for the job-seeker in your life? Consider the many stages of the hunt

MICHELLE SAMMUT
TalentEgg.ca

Students, young professionals and life-long employees alike are building their career stories. This year, give gifts that will help them realize their potential.

The goal-setting stage
Every journey has to start somewhere, and a career path is no exception. Goal-setting can be helpful to those starting their job hunt: The technique can help guide professional aspirations and inspire tangible actions.

A great gift for someone at this stage of the job hunt would be a leather-bound notebook — perfect for pinning down goals and mapping out action plans. Look for a notebook that can easily fit into the pocket of a briefcase, handbag or backpack. Having your goals on hand can be a great reminder of all that you hope to achieve.

The networking stage
When you're looking for meaningful work, networking is a smart way to get cracking.

Informational interviews are a useful networking opportunity for anyone looking gain valuable insight into a possible career path, field or employer.

These meetings give a job-seeker an opportunity to explore different options, build professional relationships and ask career-related questions to someone working in their area of interest.

One gift idea for someone in the networking stage would be a coffee shop gift card.

Informational interviews are meant to be quick, casual meetings scheduled during the workday — a 20-minute conversation that goes well with a warm beverage.

The interview stage
Landing an interview is a major achievement, and feeling prepared for the big day can play a big part in eventual success.

A great gift idea for someone at this stage of the job hunt? A tablet.

Regardless of industry, employer or job level, making a good impression in an interview is at the top of everyone's wish list. A tablet is an innovative and memorable way to showcase who you are, what you've done and what you're capable of.

Creative job? Load your digital portfolio onto your device for easy presentation.

Results-driven industry? Use visuals (like graphs or charts) to demonstrate your achievements.

So long as the information being presented is relevant to the conversation, using a tablet can help to support your points.

The new job stage

Whether someone has been at a job for a few days or a few months, being set for success is key.

- One idea? A portable battery charger can be a much-needed confidence boost for someone who is always on the go. Relying on mobile devices is part of the modern job hunt, and with one of these on hand, you can access all the resources you need (directions, contact info, urgent emails) no matter their battery life.
- A sleek business card holder can enhance a job-seeker's personal image. Having a safe, secure place to keep business cards can help to ensure they're always prepared to network, whether at a formal event or an impromptu meeting.

What better gift than one that gives your best pals a life boost? ISTOCK

Holiday Service Information

Holiday Subway Service Schedule

Thursday, December 25:

Subway starts at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 31:

Most routes with Monday – Friday late-evening service extended until 4:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve last subway times:

Line 1: north from Union Station at 3:30 a.m.
Line 2: east or west from Bloor-Yonge Station at 3:37 a.m.
Line 3: east from Kennedy Station at 4:07 a.m.
Line 4: east from Sheppard-Yonge Station at 3:58 a.m.

Thursday, January 1:

Subway starts at 9:00 a.m.

Holiday Bus/Streetcar Service Schedule

More information on bus and streetcar routes can be found at **ttc.ca.**

TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION

Are we facing a retirement security crisis?

Many Canadians are fearful for their future

CONTRIBUTED

More than 11 million Canadians have no pension plan at work, which means they'll have to rely on their savings and public pensions when they retire. But will that be enough?

Many people simply don't earn enough to meet their day-to-day needs and put money aside for retirement. According to a CIBC report released in February 2013, 5.8 million Canadians are facing a decline in living standards of more than 20 per cent when they retire. People born in the 1980s can expect a drop of 30 per cent.

That's why public pensions are so vital to retirement security and why the labour movement has always worked to secure better pensions — from winning Old Age Security in 1952 to calling for changes to the current Canada Pension Plan (CPP).

CONGRESS OF UNION RETIREES

The labour movement includes many of the country's largest seniors and retiree organizations, such as the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC). This organization helps people plan for retirement and is a strong advocate for seniors. Find out more about CURC at **unionretiree.ca**.

In 2011, the labour movement helped secure a $300-million Guaranteed Income Supplement top-up for seniors living in poverty. Over the last five years, the labour movement has been collaborating with provincial premiers and finance ministers on a concrete plan to expand the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and the Quebec Pension Plan (QPP). That plan would double future benefits in a way that's affordable for everyone.

Consensus among retirement security experts is that an expanded CPP/QPP is the best way for Canadians to save for retirement. However, the advantage for those who also have a workplace pension plan can't be underestimated; retirees with workplace pension plans have almost double the income than retirees without.

Workplaces with unions are far more likely to have employee pension plans; nearly 80 per cent of unionized employees have a pension plan at work compared to less than 30 per cent of non-unionized employees. However, in the current economy, few Canadians can count on that.

- More than 4.5 million women in the service industry have no pension plan at work.
- Only two per cent of people employed by small businesses have a pension plan.

Many small business employers want to set up pension plans but just don't have the resources to manage them. The labour movement helps set up and manage pension plans in small workplaces so that more employers can provide their workers with retirement security.

Everyone deserves to retire with dignity. To learn more about what the labour movement is doing to improve retirement security for all Canadians, go to **fairnessworks.ca**.

11 MILLION
WORKING CANADIANS
HAVE NO PENSION PLAN.
IS THAT FAIR?
The labour movement is working for retirement security. And a fairer future for all Canadians.
See how at ▾
FAIRNESS WORKS
.CA

Maple Leafs defenceman Jake Gardiner manages to clear the puck away from the Ducks' Kyle Palmieri as goalie Jonathan Bernier stands his ground at the Air Canada Centre on Tuesday. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Leafs rout Ducks for 6th straight win

NHL. Kessel caps four-goal third period with a pair of markers

Phil Kessel scored two of Toronto's four third-period goals as the Maple Leafs beat the Anaheim Ducks 6-2 for their sixth straight win Tuesday night.

David Booth scored his first of the season unassisted at 4:37 before Nazem Kadri notched his ninth at 5:28 to put Toronto ahead 4-1 at the Air Canada Centre. Anaheim starter Frederik Andersen was replaced by backup Ilya Bryzgalov following Kadri's goal.

Goalie Jonathan Bernier was instrumental in Toronto snapping the Ducks' eight-game win streak and handing them their first loss in eight games this month. Anaheim outshot the Leafs 42-27.

Ryan Kesler pulled Anaheim to within 4-2 with his 11th of the season at 8:35. But Kessel cemented the win on the power play at 15:23 before scoring his 17th goal at 18:17.

Tyler Bozak and Joffrey Lupul also scored for Toronto (19-9-3, 41 points), which improved to 14-7-0 at home and 10-1-1 since being manhandled 9-2 by the visiting Nashville Predators almost a month ago.

Sami Vatanen had the other goal for Anaheim (21-7-5, 47 points), which even with the loss still sports an impressive 11-4-2 road record.

Toronto improved to 14-0 when scoring first and 13-0 after leading through two periods.

Both teams are on the road Thursday. Toronto visits the Carolina Hurricanes while Anaheim is in Montreal for the fourth game of its five-game road trip.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On Tuesday

Maple Leafs	Ducks
6	2

San Diego

Morrow signs bonus-heavy deal

Brandon Morrow formalized his departure from Toronto on Tuesday, reportedly signing an incentive-laden, one-year deal with the San Diego Padres.

The 30-year-old right-hander spent five years with the Blue Jays, marked initially by boundless promise but eventually derailed by injury.

He will earn $2.5 million guaranteed next season — according to MLB.com Padres beat writer Corey Brock — in a low-risk, high-reward contract that includes an additional $5 million in potential bonuses if Morrow starts or $1 million if he pitches in relief.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Chicago

White Sox add to off-season haul by signing Cabrera

The White Sox have announced a three-year, $42-million US contract with free-agent outfielder Melky Cabrera.

Cabrera will make $13 million next year, $14 million in 2016 and $15 million in the final season of the deal. The agreement also includes limited no-trade provision for the 30-year-old Cabrera, who hit .301 with 16 homers and 73 RBIs in 139 games with Toronto last season.

The busy White Sox introduced Cabrera and recent acquisitions Jeff Samardzija and David Robertson during a news conference Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lowry's latest assist fulfills so many wishes

Toronto Raptor Kyle Lowry and his wife, Ayahna and three-year-old son Karter, took kids from Our Lady of Victory Elementary School on a surprise holiday shopping spree at Toys 'R' Us at Sherway gardens on Tuesday. The 30 or so students had seven minutes (Lowry is No. 7) to grab up to $250 worth of toys from the store. The event was called Lowry's Holiday Assist. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Raps' Fields regaining feel for starter's role

NBA. Seldom-used early in season, wing is being asked to fill big shoes in DeRozan's absence

The look on Landry Fields's face was a mixture of exultation and relief when the corner three-pointer went in, the first long-distance shot he had made in an NBA game in more than a calendar year.

The look on the faces of his teammates at the same time in the Raptors' win over the Orlando Magic on Monday was complete admiration and joy.

"We love him," Kyle Lowry would say later.

It's hard not to find a large measure of affinity and respect for Fields, who has gone from end-of-the-bench, mop-up guy to starter in the absence of DeMar DeRozan, a bit piece thrust into a significant role, an ultimate professional who has handled it all with determination, dignity and a self-effacing attitude that mirrors that of his 14 teammates.

"For a guy who's gone through as much things that he's gone through, for him to come out here and contribute the way he's contributed, him being on the floor is unbelievable," added Lowry. "We love what he's doing."

Landry Fields hits his big three-pointer against the Magic on Monday night at Air Canada Centre. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It has been a long and difficult journey for Fields, the 26-year-old who is in the last year of his contract.

He has battled nerve issues in his wrist, hand and arm, gone through multiple surgeries and more hours of rehabilitation than he can probably recall. He has worked summer and winter, in groups and on his own, seeking answers that may never come.

He didn't know for sure what that corner three would look like in Monday's game, it was the first one he's attempted since Dec. 8, 2013, and there had to be some doubts in his mind.

Lowry had made a wonderful move in the paint to draw in defenders and leave Fields wide open; it was a shot the product of Stanford would have taken without hesitation in a rookie season with New York when he was a respectable 39 per cent shooter from beyond the arc.

Monday? He didn't know. No one really knew.

"That (the Lowry move) put extra pressure on me, it was a great move," said Fields. "It was like, 'I've got to hit this now.' "

Fields is never going to be an NBA star — and he's likely to go back to a deep bench role when DeRozan returns — but someone who can sit for months without any disruption and then fill in is worth his weight in gold. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada's most-googled team

If you want to be googled by Canadians, it helps to be notorious or a Toronto sports team.

- That's the lesson from a Google Trends report on how Canadians are using the ubiquitous search engine, released Tuesday.
- The Toronto Raptors sit atop the list of most googled Canadian teams. They have been riding a wave of support thanks to an unexpected playoff run, a strong 19-6 start to this season, their association with the rapper Drake and a deft "We The North" marketing campaign.
- The Canadiens are No. 2 and while the Blue Jays and Toronto FC are Nos. 3 and 4, respectively, no doubt buoyed by their city's huge population — although the Maple Leafs were snubbed, not appearing on the list at all.

Soccer. Henry tips his hat to Gunners as he retires

Former Arsenal and France striker Thierry Henry announced his retirement on Tuesday, ending a 20-year career in which he earned a place in the pantheon of modern greats.

The 37-year-old Henry, a member of the France teams that won the 1998 World Cup and 2000 European Championship, was linked to a potential coaching role with the Gunners after ending his career at the New York Red Bulls, but announced he will become a TV analyst.

Henry, who holds the French record of 51 goals in 123 internationals, started his career at Monaco and also played for Juventus and Barcelona. He netted 175 English Premier League goals and is the Gunners' all-time leading goalscorer.

"You kind of never leave Arsenal. How many comebacks do you make? At one point, it will turn out to be a bad movie," Henry said, when asked if he thought about another stint at the club where a bronze statue of himself has been erected.

"We all love the first Rocky, but I'm not too sure about the last one." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thierry Henry made his final pro appearance with the New York Red Bulls on Nov. 29. GETTY IMAGES

Club World Cup

Real Madrid cruise past Cruz Azul

Goals from Karim Benzema and Gareth Bale helped Real Madrid coast to a 4-0 victory over Cruz Azul of Mexico on Tuesday and a place in the final of the Club World Cup.

Sergio Ramos and Benzema made it 2-0 at halftime, with further strikes from Bale and Francisco "Isco" Alarcon putting the result beyond doubt.

This was Madrid's 21st consecutive victory in all matches. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

A-Rod done as full-time fielder

Alex Rodriguez faces a diminished role in his return to the New York Yankees, who have stripped A-Rod of his third-base job and plan to limit his role to full-time designated hitter — at most.

GM Brian Cashman said Tuesday that A-Rod's days as an everyday fielder are over in the Bronx and Chase Headley will start at third after agreeing this week to a $52 million, four-year contract. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World juniors. Crouse's balance could suit Canada

Lawson Crouse looks around the ice and knows he's in unfamiliar territory. The youngest player in Canada's world junior camp hasn't skated alongside many of these teammates before because he's only 17.

But on an older team that will feature more than a dozen 19-year-olds, Crouse is part of the youth contingent that must factor in for Canada to live up to expectations as the favourite on home ice. Aside from projected No. 1 pick Connor McDavid, Crouse is the only other 2015 NHL draft-eligible player at camp but isn't intimidated.

"It's a different experience for myself, but I think I'm making the most of it right now," Crouse said. "Being a bigger body kind of helps. I'm bigger out there, so I kind of have a little bit more of an advantage to the smaller guys."

Crouse, who is six-foot-four and 211 pounds, brings a strong two-way game that could land him a solid spot on the 22-man roster. While this Canadian lineup is long on pure skill and speed, Crouse prides himself on his defensive game.

"I've figured out that it's not always about offence, but you have to manage both sides of the game," the Mount Brydges, Ont., native said Tuesday. "I'm obviously not going to be the guy that puts up 100 points. I'm going to do what I can and contribute all over the ice." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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2015 Toyota Camry Hybrid

- **Type.** Four-door, five-passenger midsize sedan
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- **Transmission.** CVT, (continuously variable)
- **Price.** $28,410 base, $34,500 as tested

Market position

While the Prius lineup has expanded with a wagon, plug-in and subcompact models, the Camry remains focused on buyers who prefer their hybrids to look and feel more like conventional cars.

Points

- In the top XLE trim, the hybrid costs more than the gas-powered four-cylinder XLE, but slightly below the six-cylinder model.
- All trims include Bluetooth, rearview camera, dual-zone automatic climate control, automatic headlamps, and a power driver's seat.
- Selectable Eco mode reduces power and climate control to boost fuel efficiency.

The interior is a huge improvement over the bland 2014 model.

Interesting features

Low-speed electric-only driving mode, standard rearview camera, available text-to-speech capabilities, blind-spot monitor, cross-traffic alert, and wireless phone charging.

Hybrid a handsome handler

Review. Updated styling, interior and suspension help Camry look and drive better than previous model

JIL MCINTOSH
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PHOTOS: JIL MCINTOSH OR CONTRIBUTED

Once considered so exotic that you could almost stop traffic by driving one, gas-electric hybrids are now commonplace. And while cars like Toyota's Prius still scream, "I'm a hybrid!" there are now many conventional-looking versions, including the Camry Hybrid.

Both the Camry and Camry Hybrid have been extensively updated for 2015, with new interior and exterior styling that is a considerable improvement on the previous bland design, plus tweaks to the suspension for better ride and handling.

The Camry Hybrid uses a 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine that's mated to an electric motor and an automatic, continuously variable transmission (CVT) that contains belts and pulleys instead of gears.

The system seamlessly switches between gasoline-only operation, electric-only, or a combination of the two, depending on what's needed at the time.

And you don't plug it in. Instead, the battery recharges by capturing the energy generated when you're slowing down.

When you come to a stop, the gasoline engine shuts off, so you're not using fuel or creating emissions while waiting for the light to change. Don't worry: The climate control, stereo, lights, and other essentials stay on.

The Camry Hybrid comes in three trim lines, starting with the LE at $28,410 and going up to my top-line tester, the XLE, at $34,500. That's $3,710 more than the conventional four-cylinder XLE, and as with any hybrid, it will take a while to make up the difference in fuel savings.

Combined ratings for the four-cylinder Camry are 8.4 L/100, while the hybrid is rated at 5.9.

Overall, the Camry's improvements are impressive: It drives better, with quicker steering response. And while the hybrid's ride is a little harsher than its gas sibling, it's still comfortable.

The interior is roomy (although the battery chews up some of the trunk space), and the XLE throws in such upscale features as navigation, heated leather seats, and a blind-spot monitor.

If you want hybrid performance with traditional looks and features, this one's a must on the test-drive list.

Compare

1 Kia Optima Hybrid
Base price: $30,095
The stylish Optima uses a conventional six-speed transmission instead of a CVT for sportier driving performance.

2 Ford Fusion Hybrid
Base price:$28,699
In its plug-in hybrid version, the Fusion's fuel use is as low as 2.7 L/100 km.

3 Honda Accord Hybrid
Base price: $31,773
A roomy, comfy model that costs more than the Camry but has better fuel efficiency.

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Graphene, microbes and buckyballs fuel the future

Autopilot. Scientists are working overtime to find innovative and renewable alternate fuels for our vehicles

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The people with big brains and lab coats are busier than ever, exploring some pretty freaky territory.

Let's take a look at three notable areas of exploration, each of which could apply to the automobile and transportation scene.

Super-thin graphene

About 10 years ago, scientists discovered a new form of carbon graphite, which they called graphene.

It is the world's thinnest known material — exactly one atom thick. It's also 200 times stronger than steel and the world's best conductor of electricity.

A recent study published in the journal Nature speculated that a membrane made of graphene could be used to isolate protons (by their nature, electrically charged) from the hydrogen available in air.

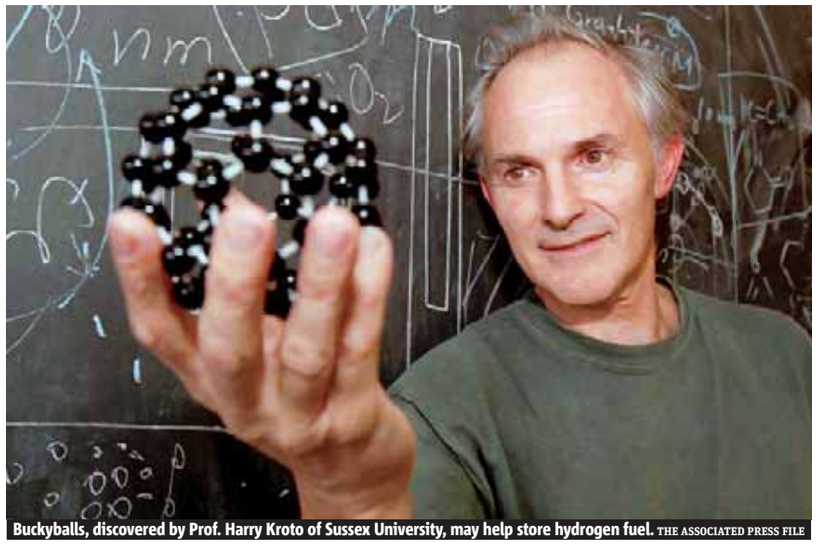
A fuel-cell vehicle could then be electrically driven, as all fuel-cell vehicles are, but without the cumbersome part of storing hydrogen on board or requiring a complex refuelling infrastructure system.

Industrious microbes

Cloning ourselves or bringing back woolly mammoths and Neanderthals are just two of the fun things we might be able to do with further advances in genome mapping and manipulation.

But George Church, one of world's top genome experts, is particularly pumped about modifying microbes to create transportation fuel.

Microbes have already demonstrated that they are able to convert wasted carbon dioxide into usable fuels, but Church wants to modify them so they are super good at it, and easily replicated, so the conversion could be done on a grand and economical scale.



Buckyballs, discovered by Prof. Harry Kroto of Sussex University, may help store hydrogen fuel. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

"Making new petroleum should be as simple and straightforward as brewing beer," he told The Economist Technology Quarterly.

Super-tough boron buckyballs

Buckyball is the nickname for a very interesting structure called buckminsterfullerene — a tiny molecular structure made up of 60 carbon atoms arranged in pentagons and hexagons.

It was so named because the architect, Richard Buckminster Fuller, used these shapes for his famous domes, like the one he created for Expo '67 in Montreal.

First discovered in 1985, the carbon buckyballs excited scientists, because they are hollow inside, super stable on the outside, and very tiny.

Last summer, researchers built the first ever buckyball made entirely of boron molecules.

Unlike their carbon counterparts, the boron buckyballs like to react with each other and other things.

This means they can be connected in chains and would bond with hydrogen, which had the researchers speculating they might one day be used to store hydrogen.

Hydrogen is tough to store because it is so light. It needs to be kept under pressure and condensed to be of any use as a transportation fuel, and that takes energy and a bulky infrastructure.

Here's hoping something incorporating boron buckyballs becomes the fascinating alternative — both for the triumph of science and for letting us say "boron buckyballs" out loud.

It's just more fun.

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*To learn more about the Mazda Unlimited Warranty, go to mazdaunlimited.ca. †0% APR Purchase Financing is available on select new 2015 Mazda models. Terms vary by model. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $24,645 (includes $500 Holiday Bonus) for the new 2015 CX-5 GX (NVXK65AA00) with a financed amount of $25,000, the cost of borrowing for a 48-month term is $0, monthly payment is $520.83, total finance obligation is $25,000. ▼With the cash purchase, lease or finance of a new 2015 CX-5/2015 CX-9 model a $500/$1,000 Holiday Bonus will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Offers valid December 2, 2014 – January 2, 2015. ‡Offer available on retail leases of new 2015 Mazda3 GX (D4XK65AA00)/2015 CX-5 GX (NVXK65AA00)/2015 CX-9 GS (QVSB85AA00) with a lease APR of 2.49%/0.99%/1.49% and bi-weekly payments of $81/$135/$189 for 60/48/48 months, the total lease obligation is $11,557/$15,133/$22,664, including down payment of $995/$1,095/$2,995. As shown, Offered Pricing for new 2015 Mazda3 GT (D4TL65AA00)/2015 CX-5 GT (NXTL85AA00)/2015 CX-9 GT (QXTB85AA00) with a lease APR of 2.49%/0.99%/1.49% and bi-weekly payments of $143/$194/$281 for 60/48/48 months, the total lease obligation is $19,588/$21,278/$32,173, including down payment of $995/$1,095/$2,995. Lease payments include freight and P.D.E. of $1,695/$1,895/$1,895. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies (12¢ per km for CX-9 models). Offers exclude HST. Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Licence, insurance, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid December 2, 2014 – January 2, 2015, while supplies last. Lease and finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your dealer for complete details.

Shift: From hybrids, technology, new vehicles and the environment, to saving money at the pumps

Jaguar trademarks the name EV-Type

Jaguar may be working on an electrified vehicle destined to be called the EV-Type, suggests auto news website Motor Authority. The company recently registered the name EV-Type with the United States Patent and Trademark Office as well as in Europe. The registration was filed "for usage on motor land vehicles, among other applications." Jaguar hasn't confirmed plans for an electrified vehicle, but did come close to launching a plug-in hybrid supercar based on the C-X75 concept from 2010. Although never slated for production, Jaguar has said the concept's technology would be used in future.

ALL STORIES AND PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Jaguar has been experimenting with the idea of an electric car since this C-X75 concept.

Portable EV charger safer than it looks

Your first impression of the Electric Vehicle Autonomous Renewable Charger (EV ARC) from Envision Solar of San Diego, Calif., is that the self-contained EV charging and energy-storage system might be prone to high winds. But it can withstand gusts up to 190 km/h, the company says, in part because of its 5,000-kilogram weight. Powered by a canopy of photovoltaic cells, the apparatus also includes a battery pack and a steel base plate/anchor — on which the vehicle parks while charging — that makes up the bulk of that weight. So, although it is portable in a sense, it needs a truck to move it and sturdy hoists to load and unload it at either end of the move.

Charger looks like it could blow away in a wind storm, but it won't.

Shift points

- China will offer more tax breaks in a bid to get drivers buying electric vehicles, reports Reuters, but they will be limited largely to local brands. Starting in September, the government stopped levying sales tax on 17 plug-in models from 11 Chinese manufacturers.
- Ford is collaborating with Wind Energy Corp. to bring a new source of clean energy to four of its Dearborn, Mich. dealerships. Wind Energy will install wind sail and solar panel systems that will power buildings, EV charging stations and lot lighting.
- California governor Jerry Brown recently signed six new bills intended to encourage electric-car use through a combination of incentives and measures to make ownership easier. The legislation also grants solo drivers of plug-in electric cars access to the state's carpool lanes.

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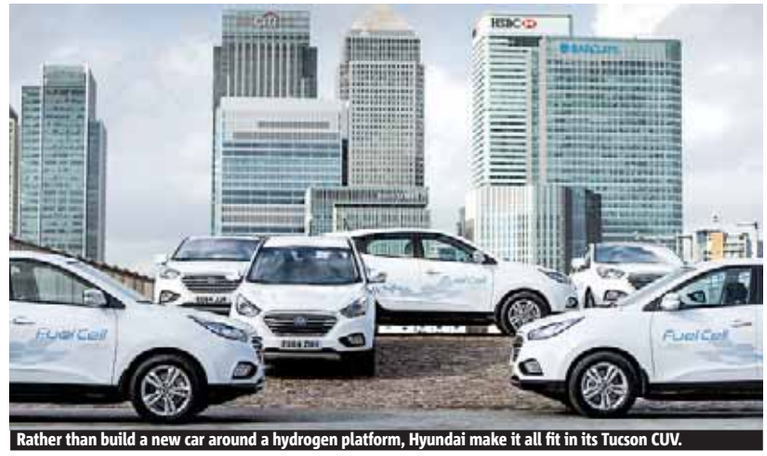
U.K. receives first Hyundai fuel-cell cars

The first six Hyundai ix35 Fuel Cell cars for customers have arrived in the United Kingdom, continuing the Korean company's global rollout of the first series-production hydrogen-fuelled car. They arrived just days after British business minister Matthew Hancock announced $20 million in government and industry funding to support hydrogen transport. The investment in the sector through 2015 will expand the U.K.'s nationwide hydrogen fuelling network, hopefully boosting consumer confidence and increasing public acceptance of hydrogen-fuel-cell vehicles. With no tail pipe emissions other than water, hydrogen is converted to electricity to run the electric drive motors. The ix35 (based on the Tucson) can travel more than 550 kilometres before refuelling, which is a quick and easy process that's much like refuelling a gas or diesel vehicle.



Rather than build a new car around a hydrogen platform, Hyundai make it all fit in its Tucson CUV.

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Auto fashion. Supermodel joins F1 champions as Mercedes launches AMG GT and fashion campaign

Supermodel Dree Hemingway is the new face of Mercedes-Benz, along with F1 drivers Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg. The trio will front the Mercedes 2015 fashion campaign, which highlights the automaker's sponsorship of fashion weeks in Paris, London, Milan, Beijing, Moscow and Berlin.

Outfitted by Hugo Boss, Hemingway, Hamilton and Rosberg were shot by photographer Collier Schorr next to the Mercedes C111 and the new Mercedes-AMG GT.

The C111 is a well-known prototype developed in the 1970s, while the AMG GT is a two-person sports coupe with a new 4.0-litre V8 twin-turbo engine.

Premiered at this year's Paris auto show, the GT boasts 462 horsepower in the standard edition, while the GT S version offers up to 510 hp, enabling a top speed of 310 km/h and zero-to100-km/h acceleration of 3.8 seconds.

With the campaign, Mercedes celebrates not only its fashion sponsorship but also its F1 pilots, who led the German manufacturer to its first World Championship victory in 2014. Hamilton claimed the title, coming in just ahead of team member Rosberg.

The two drivers share the spotlight in the campaign with Hemingway, who is writer Ernest Hemingway's great-granddaughter. Since 2010, the supermodel has posed for several fashion houses, including Paco Rabanne, Jean Paul Gaultier, Chanel, Lanvin and Givenchy. AFP

Supermodel Dree Hemingway shares the Mercedes-Benz stage with F1 drivers Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg. AFP

Video link

For a YouTube video of the Mercedes-Benz fashion shoot, go to youtube/uzKInZOQHH8

Mini's new JCW edition offers 231 hp and a top speed of 246 km/h. AFP

Debut. New Mini JCW is the most powerful ever

The new John Cooper Works edition of the Mini manages to up the power and performance without compromising on creature comforts.

The JCW edition has been a staple of the Mini lineup for more than a decade and the latest version is the most powerful production Mini ever. Its 2-litre, four-cylinder turbocharged engine offers 231 hp, a top speed of 246 km/h.

It's easy to make a small, front-wheel drive car go fast in a straight line, but the Mini has always been about go-kart-like handling, hugging bends and manoeuvrability.

Unlike a lot of hot hatchbacks, the Mini's interior hasn't been stripped back to cut weight or give a sporty feel. It does get special seats, a smaller, multi-function steering wheel and stainless steel pedals. But it also gets all of the refinements of the standard car.

The JCW will be available next spring. AFP

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For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. ▼Based on a 36 month lease for 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Double Cab 4x4 1WT. Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly/bi-weekly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of $0 and/or $0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is $12,727. Option to purchase at lease end is $17,041. Excess wear and tear and km charges not included. Other lease options available. ◆$4,500 is a manufacturer-to-dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) for 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Double Cab and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ▼/◆/***Freight & PDI ($1,695), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2015 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (excluding Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited, dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ◊Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). △EPA estimated. ††2015 Silverado 1500 Double Cab 2LZ 4x4, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $51,139. Dealers are free to set individual prices. **The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased, leased or financed a new eligible 2014MY Chevrolet, Buick or GMC vehicle (excluding Spark EV), with an ACDelco oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 40,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM Dealers. Fluid top-offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ▲Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details. 1Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any model year 1999 or newer car that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2013, 2014, 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickups models delivered in Canada between December 2, 2014 – January 2, 2015, (except 2015MY Cadillac Escalade). Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $750 credit available on all eligible Chevrolet, Buick GMC vehicles; $1,000 credit available on all Cadillac vehicles (except 2015MY Cadillac Escalade). Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. 2Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any model year 1999 or newer pick-up truck that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive): $1,000 credit available towards the retail purchase, cash purchase or lease of one eligible 2013, 2014 or 2015 model year Chevrolet or GMC light or heavy duty pickup (except Colorado/Canyon); delivered in Canada between December 2, 2014 – January 2, 2015. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. 3Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any Pontiac/Saturn/SAAB/Hummer/Oldsmobile model year 1999 or newer car or Chevrolet Cobalt or HHR that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2013, 2014, 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickup models delivered in Canada between December 2, 2014 – January 2, 2015, (except 2015MY Cadillac Escalade). Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $1,500 credit available on all eligible Chevrolet, Buick and GMC vehicles; $2,000 credit available on all Cadillac vehicles (except 2015MY Cadillac Escalade). Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. 4Offer valid to eligible retail lessees in Canada who have obtained credit approval by and entered into a lease agreement with GM Financial, and who accept delivery from December 2, 2014 through January 2nd, 2015 of any new or demonstrator 2015 model year Chevrolet. City Express excluded at outset of program; will be eligible once residuals become available. General Motors of Canada will pay one month's lease payment or two bi-weekly lease payments as defined on the lease agreement (inclusive of taxes). After the first month, lessee will be required to make all remaining scheduled payments over the remaining term of the lease agreement. PPSA/RDPRM is not due. Consumer may be required to pay Dealer Fees. Insurance, licence, and applicable taxes not included. Additional conditions and limitations apply. GM reserves the right to modify or terminate this offer at any time without prior notice. See dealer for details. 5$500 Boxing Week Bonus is a manufacturer-to-consumer credit (tax inclusive) available on the retail purchase or lease of 2014 or 2015 model year Chevrolet Sonic, Cruze, Trax, Equinox, Traverse, Silverado Light Duty (1500) Double Cab, Silverado HD (gas engine only), 2014 or 2015 model year Buick Verano, Encore, Enclave, 2014 or 2015 model year GMC Terrain, Acadia, Sierra Light Duty (1500) Double Cab, Sierra HD (gas engine only) and 2014 or 2015 model year Cadillac ATS Sedan and SRX delivered in Canada between December 15, 2014 and January 2, 2015. For the province of Quebec the offer ends on December 31, 2014.

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SL AWD Premium model shown with Accessory Roof Rail Crossbars▲

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***Lease payments of $65/$90 on the 2015 Rogue/2015 Pathfinder must be made on a semi-monthly basis and cannot be made weekly. Weekly lease payments are for advertising purposes only.** †Receive a $1,000 Holiday Discount on the purchase finance or lease of any new 2014 Sentra/2014 Juke® or 2015 Versa Note/Rogue models. Receive a $2,000 Holiday Discount on the purchse finance or lease of any new 2014 Maxima/2014 Pathfinder or 2015 Altima/2015 Pathfinder. This discount includes $250 dealer participation. The discount is based on stackable trading dollars when registered and delivered between Dec.2, 2014 – Jan. 2, 2015 only through Nissan Canada finance. The discount will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and can be combined with special and standard lease or finance rates. Conditions apply. ±Representative monthly lease offer based on any new 2015 Rogue S FWD (Y6RG15 AA00), CVT transmission/2015 PathfinderS V6 4x2 (5XRG15 AA00) CVT transmission. 2.99%/3.89% lease APR for a 60/60 month term equals 120/120 semi-monthly payments of $140/$194 with $0 down payment, and $0 security deposit. First semi-monthly payment, down payment and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices and payments include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $16,848/$23,275. $1,000/$2,000 NCF Bonus cash discount included in advertised lease offer, applicable only on 2015 Rogue S FWD (Y6RG15 AA00), CVT transmission/2015 PathfinderS V6 4x2 (5XRG15 AA00) CVT transmission through subvented lease, finance through NCF. This offer is only valid from Dec. 2, 2014 – Jan. 2, 2015. Conditions apply. ≠Representative finance offer based on 2015 Nissan Micra® 1.6 SR (S5SG55 AA00) Manual transmission. Selling Price is $17,282 financed at 0% APR equals 130 bi-weekly payments of $133 for an 60 month term. $0 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $17,282. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. **MSRP starting from $9,998 for a 2015 Nissan Micra® 1.6 S, MT (S5LG55 AA00) excluding Freight and PDE charges and specific duties of new tires. •$11,432 Selling Price for a new 2015 Micra® 1.6 S, MT (S5LG55 AA00). Conditions apply. ▲Models shown $16,331/$35,982/$48,202 Selling Price for a new 2015 Micra® KROM MT (S5RG55 DA00)/2015 Rogue SL AWD Premium (Y6DG15 BK00)/2015 Pathfinder Platinum (5XEG15 AA00). •*±≠▲Freight and PDE charges ($1,400/$1,750/$1,720), air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, applicable fees (all which may vary by region), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease and finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. Offers valid between December 2, 2014 – January 2, 2015. °Nissan is the fastest growing brand in the non-luxury segment based on comparison of 12-month retail sales from October 2013 to September 2014 of all Canadian automotive brands and 12-month averages sales growth. ^Based on GAC (AIAMC) Compact segmentation. All information compiled from third-party sources, including AutoData and manufacturer websites. July 30, 2014. ^Based on GAC (AIAMC) Compact segmentation. All information complied from NR Can Fuel Economy data and third-party sources, including manufacturer websites. Gasoline engines only, excludes hybrids, diesels and electric vehicles. July 30, 2014. ^^Based on GAC (AIAMC) Intermediate segmentation. All information compiled from NR Can Fuel Economy data and third-party sources, including manufacturer websites. November 26, 2014 Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. Offers have no cash alternative value. See your participating Nissan retailer for complete details. ©1998-2014 Nissan Canada Inc. and Nissan Financial Services Inc. a division of Nissan Canada Inc.

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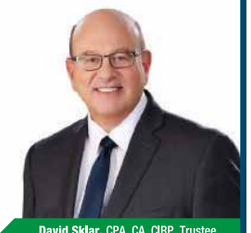

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→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You have the gift of the gab and can get just about anyone to do just about anything for you. Try not to abuse the situation or you may have some uncomfortable questions to answer later.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Try not to be too open about what you think today or you may let slip something that could be used against you.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Someone will try to persuade you to part with some of your cash today. Turn them down. Just because they've had a good idea does not mean you have to finance it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You seem to be in one of your upbeat moods, but the planets warn you could be a bit too optimistic for your own good. Remember, if you start a new task you must see it through.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You won't be short of advice from loved ones today but you don't need it. You know what you need and you know where to find it, so ignore everyone else and follow your instincts.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
It's a long time since you have felt this good and you should make the most of it. If you have a creative talent, now is the time to get serious about it.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Be wary of those who offer you something for nothing. They may not want a payment for it now but it will give them lots of leverage later on when they want something from you.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you have something on your mind, let others know. Yes, you may make more of it than you should but that is preferable to pretending everything is OK.

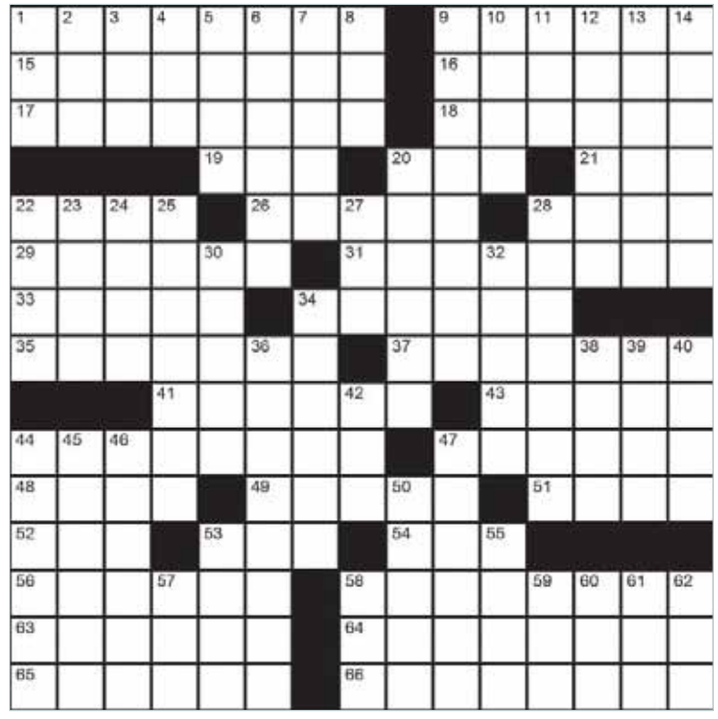
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You're in a mood when the thought of failure does not enter your head and because of that you could succeed beyond your expectations — or fall flat.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
As Mercury moves into your birth sign today you are advised to put a name to your dreams. If there is something you desire now is as good a time as any to be open about it.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your imaginative powers are at their height. Over the next 24 hours, don't dismiss an idea because it sounds crazy.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Anyone who dares to disagree with you today is going to wish they had kept their opinions to themselves. You are in no mood for criticism, not even from those whose input you value. You know what you are doing.

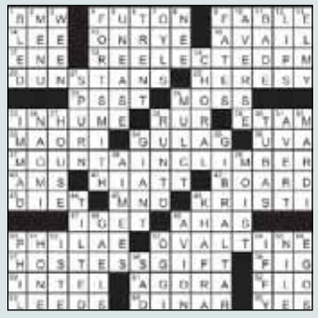
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Festival of Lights
9. Canadian boots company
15. Somewhat: 3 wds.
16. Mid-size sedan by Kia
17. Classic
18. Sportswear brand
19. Classic coat
20. Mr. Johnson
21. __ generis (Unique, in Latin)
22. Celtic language
26. The 'L' of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz author L. Frank Baum's name
28. Tricks
29. Run by the other runner again
31. Immortal flower, to a poet
33. Entrap
34. Decorative perfume bottle
35. Climbing wall plant's 'grasper'
37. Gets the snow off the walkway
41. PEI's provincial tree: 2 wds.
43. Ms. Couric
44. Giant polar bear of Inuit folklore
47. Take to be true
48. Grad
49. Mr. Welles
51. Bathroom basin
52. Natalie Cole's father
53. Christmas carol: "The Holly and the __"
54. Rug of Scandinavia
56. "Grand Canyon" Canadian band, Timber __
58. Endearing
63. Status early in a baseball inning: 2 wds.
64. Guards
65. 1998 Winter Olympics city in Japan
66. 'Historic Fort Town on the St. Lawrence River' in Ontario

Down
1. Mafia killing
2. Singer Ms. DiFranco
3. '60/'70s war zone, informally
4. Expend
5. Sort of seaweed
6. Positions oneself to say "Will you marry me?"
7. Analyze
8. Fellows
9. Saskatchewan town near the Montana border
10. Receptive
11. Sport-__ (Versatile vehicle)
12. Guitar manufacturer
13. Quantity
14. Dapper
20. Reversible patterned fabric
22. Formerly, to a poet
23. Ms. Russo
24. Bridge
25. Man's musical membrane?
27. Prefix that means 'Bad'
28. Solicit campaign votes
30. More dry
32. Chess pieces
34. Like that stuff used in baked goods
36. "That sounds marvelous, sign me up!": 3 wds.
38. Decorative case
39. Outline
40. Search
42. "A Woman's Worth" singer ...her initials-sharers
44. Town of southern Alberta
45. Vancouver-born actress Ms. Huffman
46. Eggnog ingredient
47. Unspecified individual
50. Command
53. Lady Antebellum's "_ __ to You"
55. Fine things
57. __ constrictor
58. Egyptian cobra
59. Curve
60. Prefix to 'hazard'
61. Sanction
62. Ouest's opposite

Yesterday's Crossword

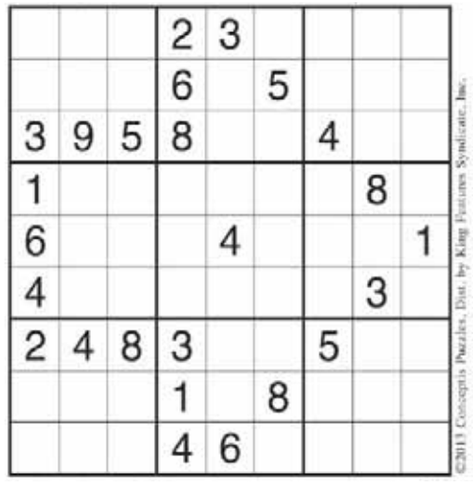


Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



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Yesterday's Sudoku

3	7	9	2	5	6	1	4	8
1	2	5	4	7	8	9	6	3
4	6	8	9	3	1	2	5	7
2	9	6	7	8	5	3	1	4
8	3	1	6	4	2	7	9	5
7	5	4	3	1	9	6	8	2
5	8	7	1	9	3	4	2	6
9	4	2	8	6	7	5	3	1
6	1	3	5	2	4	8	7	9

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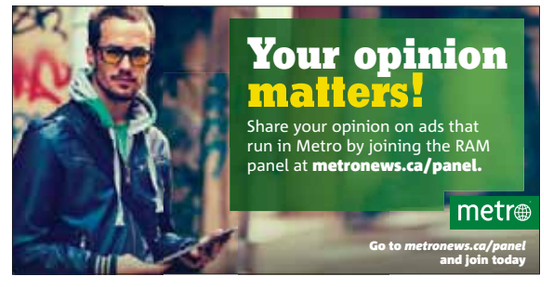
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OR

UP TO $6,000[2] CASH BONUS ON SELECT 2014 MODELS

INCLUDES $500 LIMITED TIME BONUS

OR CHOOSE GREAT CASH OFFERS

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $23,794[3] INCLUDING $5,000 IN CASH CREDIT[4]

Sorento EX shown[5] Cash purchase price $33,494
hwy / city 100km[6] : 9.0L/12.7L

2015 SORENTO LX AT

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $5,000 cash credit[4]. Offer based on new 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) with a selling price of $28,794. Excludes HST.

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $12,999[3] INCLUDING $4,515 IN CASH CREDIT[4]

Forte SX shown[5] Cash purchase price $26,814
hwy / city 100km[6]: 5.3L/8.0L

2015 FORTE LX MT

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees, a $4,500 cash credit and a $15 dealer contribution[4]. Offer based on new 2015 Forte LX MT (F0541F) with a selling price of $17,514. Excludes HST.

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $11,999[3] INCLUDING $3,615 IN CASH CREDIT[4]

Rio4 SX with Navigation shown[5] Cash purchase price $22,514
hwy / city 100km[6]: 5.3L/7.3L

2015 RIO LX MT

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees, a $3,600 cash credit and a $15 dealer contribution[4]. Offer based on new 2015 Rio LX MT (RO541F) with a selling price of $15,614. Excludes HST.

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Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include fuel-fill charges up to $100, dealer administration fees up to $399, licensing or applicable taxes.

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Offer(s) available on select new 2014/2015 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery from December 2, 2014 to January 2, 2015. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,665, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, other taxes, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. [1]"Don't Pay Until Next Year" (60-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2015 models on approved credit. No interest will accrue during the first 30 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. Offer ends January 2, 2015. [2]Cash bonus amounts are offered on select new 2014 models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase price before taxes. Available on cash purchase offers only. Offer varies by trim. Certain conditions apply. $6,000 maximum cash bonus amount only available on the new 2014 Optima Hybrid EX (OP74CE) and includes a $1,000 ECO-Credit. [3]Cash purchase price offer for the new 2015 Rio LX MT (RO541F)/2015 Forte LX MT (F0541F)/2015 Sorento 2.4L LX AT (SR75BF) with a selling price of $11,999/$12,999/$23,794 includes delivery and destination fees of up to $1,665, $5 OMVIC fee, tire tax of $29, $100 A/C charge (where applicable), a $3,600/$4,500/$5,000 cash credit and a $15/$15/$0 dealer contribution. See retailer for complete details. [4]Cash credit amounts are offered on select new 2014/2015 models and are deducted from the negotiated cash purchase price before taxes. Available on cash purchase offer only. Offer varies by trim. Certain conditions apply. Offer ends January 2, 2015. See your dealer for complete details. [5]Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for new 2015 Forte SX (F0748F)/2015 Rio4 SX with Navigation (RO749F)/2015 Sorento 3.3L EX AT AWD (SR75HF) is $26,695/$22,395/$34,495. [6]Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2015 Rio LX+ ECO AT/2015 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl MT/2015 Sorento LX 2.4L GDI 4-cyl AT. These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. [7]$1,000 Holiday Bonus amounts are offered on select new 2015 Winter Edition models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase price before taxes. Available on financing offers only. Certain conditions apply. $1,000 Holiday Bonus amount available on the 2015 Forte LX+ AT Winter SE (F0745F), 2015 Rondo LX AT (5-seat) Winter SE (RN75SF), 2015 Rondo LX AT (7-seat) Winter SE (RN75TF) and 2015 Optima LX AT Winter SE (OP745F). Offer ends January 2, 2015. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.